CITY HILIGHTS

The Truth Speaks

THURSDAY ▸ DECEMBER 25, 2025 ▸ VOL: 11 ▸ ISSUE: 160 ▸ PAGES 8 ▸ ₹2.00

Government to Launch Bharat Taxi Service Soon P6

FTAs Expected To Boost Indian Professional Services Globally P7

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ISRO's Heaviest Rocket
Launches US Satellite Successfully

SRIHARIKOTA

In a landmark Christmas Eve mission, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Wednesday successfully launched a US communication satellite using its heaviest rocket, LVM3-M6, marking the heaviest payload ever deployed to Low Earth Orbit (LEO) by an LVM3 launch from Indian soil.

The 43.5-metre-tall launch vehicle lifted off majestically at 8.54 am from the second launch pad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota. After a flawless flight lasting about 15 minutes, the BlueBird Block-2 communication satellite of US-based AST SpaceMobile was accurately injected into its intended low Earth orbit, ISRO said.

Weighing about 6,100 kg, BlueBird Block-2 is the heaviest satellite placed into LEO by the LVM3 to date. The previous record-holder was the LVM3-M5 Communication Satellite-03, weighing around 4,400 kg, launched into Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO) in November.

The mission was executed as part of a commercial agreement between NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), ISRO's commercial arm, and AST SpaceMobile. BlueBird Block-2 is part of a global LEO constellation aimed at enabling direct-to-mobile connectivity, providing 4G and 5G voice calls, video, messaging, streaming and data services directly to standard smartphones without the need for specialised hardware.

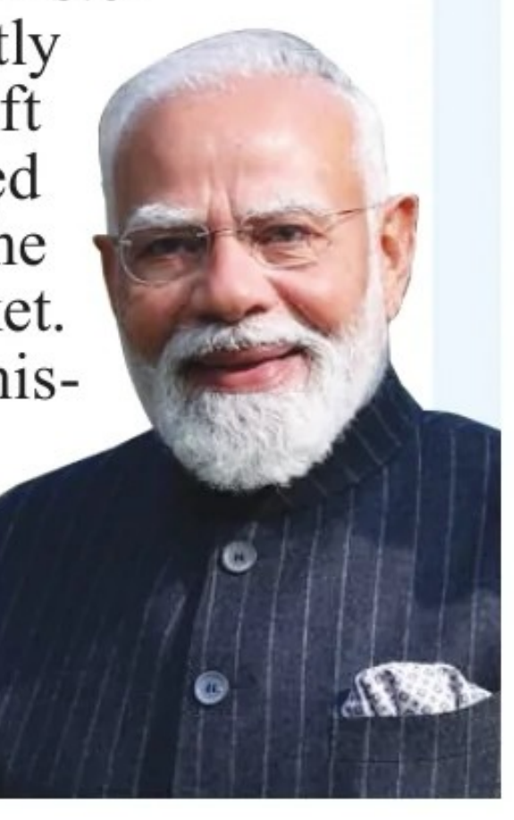
Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the successful LVM3 mission reinforces India's growing stature in the global commercial launch market.

Also known as GSLV-MkIII, the LVM3-M6 is a three-stage launch vehicle powered by a cryogenic upper stage developed by ISRO's Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre. It uses two S200 solid rocket boosters, developed by the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, to generate the massive thrust required for lift-off. AST SpaceMobile, which aims to build the world's first space-based cellular broadband network, has already launched five BlueBird satellites in September 2024 and partnered with over 50 mobile operators worldwide. The LVM3-M6 mission was the sixth operational flight of the rocket and its third dedicated commercial launch.

PM Modi on LVM3-M6 Success

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday congratulated the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for successfully placing the heaviest satellite ever launched from Indian soil into orbit using the LVM3 rocket, calling it a proud milestone for India's space programme. ISRO's heavy-lift LVM3-M6 mission deployed the 6.5-tonne BlueBird Block-2 communication satellite of US-based AST SpaceMobile into a 520-km circular orbit.

In a post on X, the Prime Minister said the achievement significantly strengthened India's heavy-lift launch capability and reinforced the country's growing role in the global commercial launch market. He noted that the successful mission reflected India's push towards Aatmanirbhar Bharat and highlighted the dedication of the nation's scientists and engineers.



'Happy to Continue as Deputy CM,' Says DK Shivakumar amid K'taka Leadership Buzz

NEW DELHI

Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Wednesday sought to put to rest speculation over a leadership change in the state, asserting that there was no chief ministerial row within the Congress and that he was happy to continue in his present role. Speaking to the media at Karnataka Bhavan in New Delhi, Shivakumar said talk of internal differences and meetings with the Congress high command existed only in media reports. "I am not meeting anyone in the AICC high command. I am happy to continue as the Deputy Chief Minister. I love to be a party worker," he said, firmly dismissing questions on a possible leadership change or a rotational chief ministership in Karnataka.

Responding to repeated queries, Shivakumar underlined that speculation over names was unwarranted and stressed that any decision regarding leadership would be taken solely by the Congress party.

DK Shivakumar dismisses leadership change speculation, says content continuing as Karnataka deputy chief minister

"Any day, the Congress party can take a decision. Whatever the leadership decides will be accepted," he said, reiterating his loyalty to the organisation.

On questions about Priyanka Gandhi's role or speculation projecting her as a prime ministerial candidate, Shivakumar said he was not aware of such discussions. "My leader is the AICC president, and my leader of opposition is Rahul Gandhi," he added. The Deputy CM declined to comment on issues beyond his remit, including air pollution, and advised reporters to approach Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on matters such as a possible cabinet reshuffle.

Shivakumar also clarified that his visit to the national capital was purely administrative and not political. He said he was in Delhi to meet Union Ministers on state-related issues, including irrigation and urban development.

The renewed buzz comes as the Karnataka government recently crossed the halfway mark of its term, reviving talk of a so-called two-and-a-half-year power-sharing formula. Shivakumar, however, categorically rejected any such discussions, reiterating that there was no leadership row in the state Congress.

Directions issued to states to halt fresh leases, tighten oversight of existing operations

Centre imposes complete ban on new mining leases in Aravalli

NEW DELHI

Amid renewed concerns over ecological degradation of the Aravalli hills, the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has imposed a complete ban on granting any new mining leases across the Aravalli range until sustainable mining plans are finalised in line with Supreme Court directions. In formal communications sent to the governments of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana, the ministry directed that no fresh mining permissions be issued in the Aravallis. The ban will remain in force until the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) prepares comprehensive, science-based management plans and stricter environmental protocols are put in place for existing operations.

The directions follow a Supreme Court order last month that called for an immediate halt to new mining leases and mandated a detailed scientific exercise to frame sustainable mining plans, similar to the one undertaken for the Saranda Wildlife Sanctuary in Jharkhand. The Dehradun-based ICFRE has been tasked with carrying out this assessment. Apart from drafting a Management Plan for Sustainable Mining (MPSM) for the entire Aravalli region, the ICFRE has also been asked to identify additional areas where mining should be prohibited.

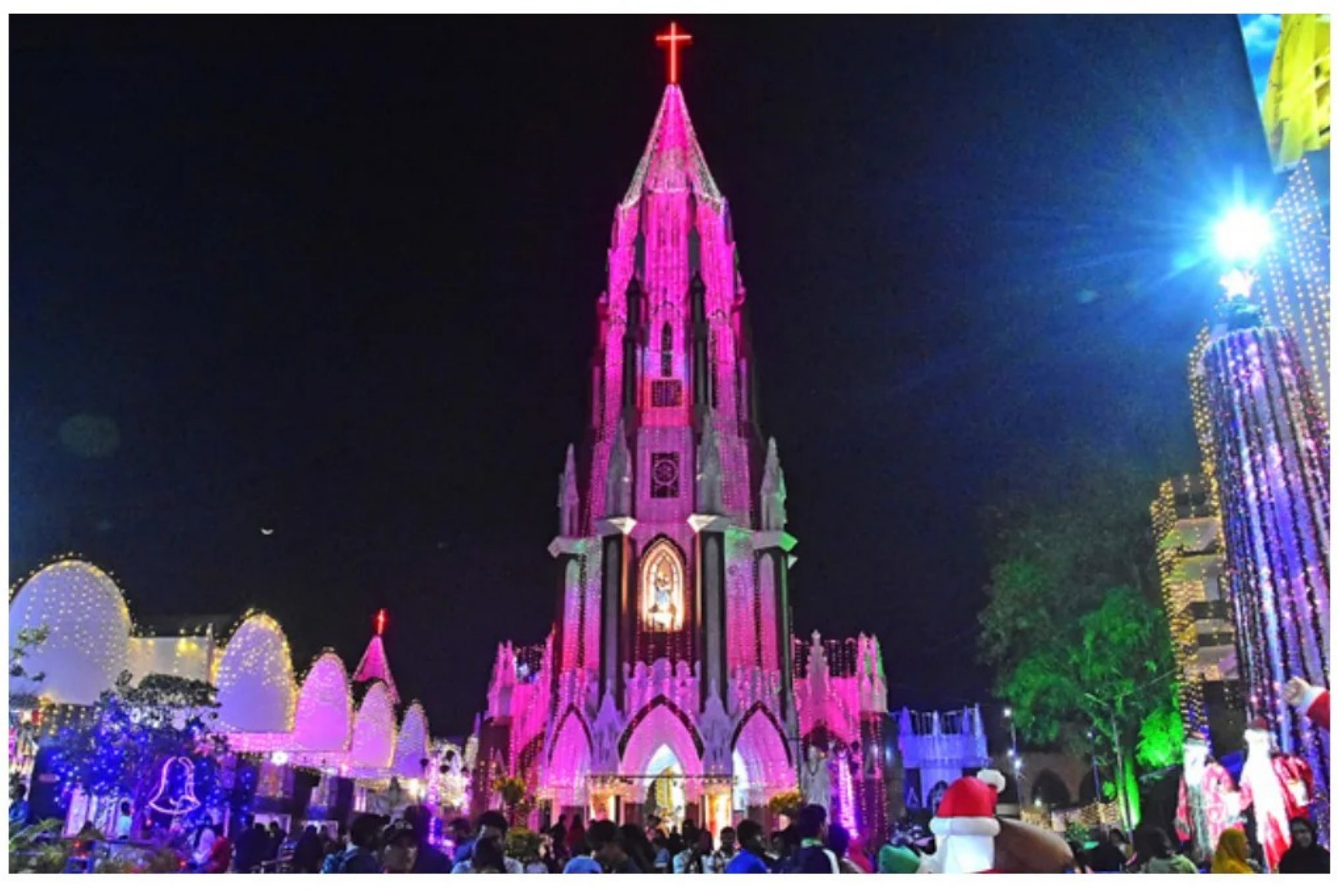
Thackeray Brothers Unite for BMC Polls, Caution Marathi Voters against Division

MUMBAI

After two decades of political estrangement, cousins Uddhav Thackeray and Raj Thackeray on Wednesday formally announced an alliance between the Shiv Sena (UBT) and the Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) for the upcoming Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) and other civic elections. The Thackeray brothers jointly appealed to Marathi voters to stay united, warning that division would weaken the authority of the Marathi manoos over Mumbai.

Addressing a joint gathering after paying tributes to Shiv Sena founder Bal Thackeray at Shivaji Park, Uddhav Thackeray said Marathi unity was essential to safeguard Mumbai's interests. Recalling the United Maharashtra movement, he linked past sacrifices to the present political moment, saying Shiv Sena was born to protect the rights of Marathi people in the city.

BASILICA CHRISTMAS GLOW



St Mary's Basilica glows with colourful LED lights during Christmas celebrations at Shivajinagar in Bengaluru on Wednesday.
▸ CH PHOTO

'Bill Must Be Repealed,' Says Priyank on VB-G RAM G Act

BENGALURU

Karnataka Rural Development and IT-BT Minister Priyank Kharge on Wednesday launched a strong attack on the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) Act, asserting that it weakens the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and undermines the foundation of social justice. He said a nationwide collective movement would be initiated to oppose the law and challenge it legally.

In a post on X, Kharge said the Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (RDPR) had convened a major roundtable in Delhi with over 80 participants, including civil rights activists, economists, sociologists, lawyers, former judges, NGOs and MGNREGA workers. "We came together to respond to the VB-G RAM G Bill and its impact on rural livelihoods," he said.

Emphasising the importance of MGNREGA, Kharge said the scheme provided rural families with dignity, stability and confidence. "Weakening it strikes at the very foundation of social justice," he said.

KSCA Must Implement 17 Safety Recommendations to Host Events at Chinnaswamy: Parameshwara

BENGALURU

Karnataka Home Minister G Parameshwara on Wednesday said the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) would be allowed to hold events at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium only after fully implementing all 17 recommendations made by the commission that investigated the stampede incident earlier this year.

Speaking to reporters, Parameshwara said that despite repeated discussions and the formation of a high-level committee, the KSCA had failed to act on the recommendations so far. He recalled that following the stampede during Royal Challengers Bengaluru's IPL victory celebrations, the state government constituted a commission headed by Justice John Michael D'Cunha, which submitted a detailed report outlining safety and crowd management measures.

"We forwarded those recommendations to the KSCA, and they must respond to them. So far, it appears that no action has been taken," Parameshwara said.

TAIWAN EARTHQUAKE TREMORS

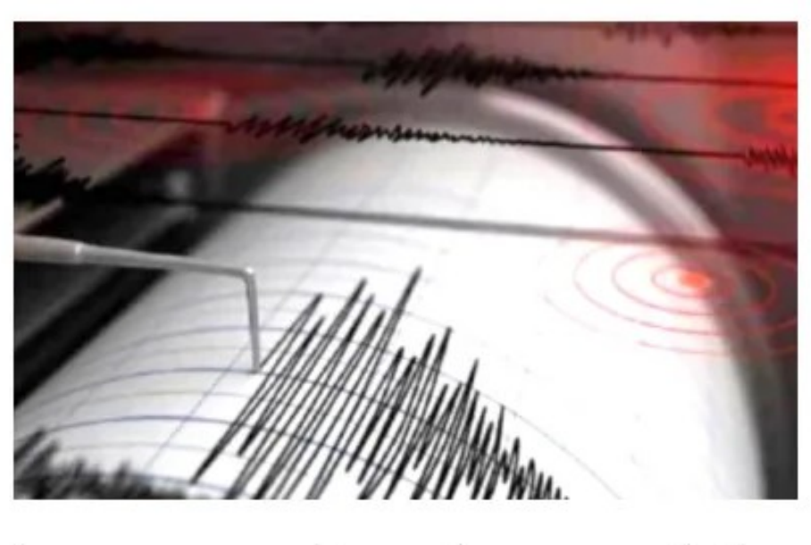
Magnitude 5.7 Earthquake Shakes Buildings in Taiwan

TAIPEI, TAIWAN

A magnitude 5.7 earthquake struck the Taiwan region on Wednesday, sending strong tremors across the capital Taipei and causing buildings to shake, according to witnesses. The quake, which occurred in the afternoon, briefly alarmed residents across the densely populated city, with many reporting swaying lights, rattling windows and shaking furniture.

The German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ) said the earthquake struck at a relatively shallow depth of 10 kilometres (6.21 miles), a factor that contributed to the noticeable shaking at the surface. Shallow earthquakes are often felt more strongly, even when their magnitudes are moderate. Reuters reported that tremors were felt widely across Taipei, with office workers and residents stepping outdoors as a precaution. There were no immediate reports of major damage or casualties, but authorities continued to monitor the situation while assessing any potential impact on infrastructure.

Earlier in the day, Taiwan's Central Weather Administration said a stronger magnitude 6.1 earthquake had hit the island's southeastern Taitung County. While that quake was centred away from major urban areas, it underscored the heightened seismic activity being recorded in the region.



Taiwan sits along the Pacific "Ring of Fire," a zone of intense seismic and volcanic activity where tectonic plates converge. As a result, earthquakes are frequent, and the island has invested heavily in strict building codes, disaster preparedness and early warning systems to reduce risks to life and property.

Seismologists noted that while Wednesday's quake was moderate in strength, residents should remain alert for possible aftershocks, which commonly follow such events. Authorities urged the public to stay calm, follow safety advisories and avoid spreading unverified information.

EARLIER QUAKE

- **Magnitude:** 6.1
- **Location:** Taitung County, southeastern Taiwan
- **Reported by:** Central Weather Administration
- **Seismic Zone:** Pacific Ring of Fire

EARTHQUAKE SNAPSHOT

Magnitude: 5.7
Depth: 10 km
Region Affected: Taiwan
City Felt: Taipei
Reported Effects: Buildings shook, strong tremors
Data Source: GFZ, Reuters

QUICK READ

Rail Board Approves Bi-Weekly Bengaluru–Mumbai Train

Bengaluru

The Railway Board has cleared a bi-weekly train service between SMVT Bengaluru and Lokmanya Tilak Terminus (LTT), Mumbai, to improve long-distance connectivity between Karnataka and Maharashtra. According to the notification, the journey will take about 24 hours. Train No. 16553 will depart from SMVT Bengaluru at 8.35 pm and reach LTT at 8.40 pm the next day. In the return direction, the train will leave LTT at 11.15 pm and arrive in Bengaluru at 10.30 pm the following day. The service will operate from SMVT Bengaluru on Saturdays and Tuesdays, and from LTT on Sundays and Wednesdays. The train will halt at major stations including Tumakuru, Davangere, Hubballi, Dharwad, Belagavi, Miraj, Sangli, Karad, Satara, Pune, Kalyan and Thane.

Lawyer Assaulted by Youth Gang in Machohalli

Bengaluru

A young lawyer was allegedly assaulted by a gang of youths near Bairarameshwara Complex in Machohalli village on Wednesday night. The victim, Venkatesh (25), was intercepted on the road and beaten up by a group allegedly under the influence of ganja. The accused have been identified as Akhilesh, Huchegowda alias Gunda, and their associates. Even as police rushed to the spot, the miscreants reportedly attacked them and fled. Venkatesh is undergoing treatment at a private hospital. The assault was captured on CCTV, and a case has been registered at Madanayakanahalli police station.

Lokayukta Arrests ACP for Taking Bribe to Open Hotel

Bengaluru

The Lokayukta police on Wednesday arrested Malleswaram sub-division Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) Krishnamurthy for allegedly accepting a bribe of ₹30,000 from a hotel owner. The officer had reportedly demanded a monthly payment of ₹32,000 to allow the functioning of Sagar Hotel in Bengaluru. An audio clip in which the ACP is heard seeking the bribe surfaced, following which the hotel owner approached the Lokayukta. Acting on the complaint, officials registered an FIR and laid a trap. Krishnamurthy was caught red-handed while receiving the money.

Explore Turning Madiwala Lake into Tourist Spot: Maheshwar Rao

Instructions to construct a culvert in the Madiwala Bus Stand area before monsoon

BENGALURU

A trial run of the weed removal machine in Madiwala Lake has been given and GBA Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao has instructed the officials to use it in other lakes as per the requirement.

Speaking after giving a trial run to the weed removal machine in Madiwala Lake under the jurisdiction of Bangalore South Municipal Corporation, he said that a new state-of-the-art weed removal machine has been purchased with the aim of removing aquatic weeds in the lakes under the jurisdiction of the corporation. He directed that steps be taken to properly utilize this machine and keep the lakes clean by removing weeds in the lakes as per the requirement.

The corporation has purchased a state-of-the-art weed removal machine called Rudra Aqua Max at a cost of Rs 1.28 crore. This machine has a collection capacity of up to 5 tons and a working width of 4 to 6 meters. It is equipped with a live GPS tracking system, safety sensors and cameras. The control room can monitor where and for how long the machine is working, an official informed.

This machine will be maintained by Autocracy Machinery for 3 years. During this period, if there is any technical problem in the machine, the company will take over the complete maintenance. The use of this machine will significantly increase the maintenance capacity of the lakes under the GBA, and significant improvement will be achieved in the weed removal performance, water flow and overall ecological health of the lakes.

Madiwala Lake is being developed at a cost of Rs. 15 crore, and other development works including development of airstrip, construction of tunnels, children's play area, installation of street lights, toilets, bridge work are in progress. He instructed the officials to complete them at the earliest by speeding up the works.

Madiwala Lake used to have a boating system. It has now stopped. He instructed the officials to check the possibility of restarting boating and developing Madiwala Lake as a tourist destination as per the rules and take necessary steps.

A portion of the Madiwala Lake Bund Road work has already been completed and has been opened for vehicular traffic. On the other hand, a bridge needs to be constructed in the Kere Kodi area (Madiwala Bus Stand), and in this regard, he instructed the officials to immediately construct a bridge and facilitate smooth movement of vehicles.

Other important directions of the Chief Commissioner includes, notice that garbage is being dumped on the roadside near Madiwala Kere Dobi Ghat, and instructions to take appropriate action to prevent garbage from being dumped in this area again. Instructions to dredge the silt from the Rajakaluve and keep it clean. Instructions to submit a proposal for dredging the silt in the lake. On this occasion, Municipal Commissioner KN Ramesh, Chief Engineer Basavaraj Kabade, Executive Engineer and other officials were present.

Jayadeva Installs Advanced Blood Test Analyser for Reports

BENGALURU

Getting your blood test at Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research. Your wait time for the report will be cut by at least an hour, thanks to the newly installed advanced blood test analyser (Roche Cobas Pro). The cardiac care hospital has one of the highest patient loads among the public health facilities in the state and is frequented by patients from all over the country. The new analyser which delivers test reports in a very short time is expected to double the working capacity of the laboratory.

Currently, it takes 3 hours for us to deliver a patient their blood test reports after their sample has been drawn. But now, including collection, transportation to the lab, centrifuging of the blood, processing and report will take around 45 mins to 1 hour in case of cardiac emergencies and around 2 hours in non-emergency/ other cases, said Dr KC Sheethal, Associate Prof. of Biochemistry and Academic Superintendent.

Most patients who undergo these tests have cardiac issues while the other part of the patient load is made up of those who come for master health checkups. In case of a master health checkup, we test lipid profiles, diabetic panel, vitamin levels, thyroid levels and liver function to name a few, Dr Sheethal noted.

At Jayadeva Hospital, around 1,800 to 2,000 patients undergo diagnostic tests every day. In this context, the newly installed machine will be highly beneficial in delivering blood test reports to all patients quickly and within the shortest possible time, said Dr B Dinesh, Director of the Institute.

Director of the Institute Dr Dinesh said, with the help of this newly installed machine, blood test reports will reach patients faster, and doctors will be able to examine more patients efficiently. Additionally, during emergency situations, treatment can be administered promptly based on test reports, thereby helping save patients' lives.

Weekly Friday Phone-In with Citizens by North City Corporation

BENGALURU

With the objective of responding directly to the various issues and grievances of citizens within the jurisdiction of the Bengaluru North City Corporation, the Commissioner, Pommala Sunil Kumar, has launched a weekly Phone-In interaction programme to be held every Friday.

This week's Phone-In programme will be conducted on December 26 from 7.00 AM to 9.00 AM. During this time, the public can speak directly with the Commissioner and submit their grievances on a wide range of issues including road potholes and road repairs, maintenance of streetlights, garbage collection and disposal, removal of dangerous trees and branches, mosquito control, control of stray dogs, development and maintenance of parks, removal of unauthorized banners and posters, clearance of encroachments on footpaths, e-Khata related issues, and drainage-related problems.

All complaints received will be registered on the "Sahaya 2.0" portal* and immediately forwarded to the concerned officials.

Commissioner's Walkathon: Directions Issued for Immediate Redressal

BENGALURU

With the objective of listening to public concerns and resolving issues at the ground level, the Commissioner of Bengaluru South City Corporation, KN Ramesh undertook an extensive 3 kilometre walkathon on Wednesday from Brigade Millennium to Yelachenahalli Metro Station, interacting directly with citizens. The participation of the local MLA M Krishnappa, added significance to the initiative.

During the walkathon, hundreds of residents and Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) from RBI Layout, Ishwara Layout, Sadanandappa Layout, and Ganapathipura submitted their grievances to the Commissioner.

Key Decisions and Strict Measures Taken During the Walkathon include, Hotels encroaching upon footpaths were fined Rs 5,000 on the spot. The Commissioner also ordered penal action against those dumping construction materials on footpaths and directed the immediate removal of unauthorized advertisement boards.

Immediate asphalting, blacktopping was ordered in Ishwara Layout and RBI Layout, where roads have not been asphalted since 2015.

To control dust, instructions were issued to sprinkle water on roads where civil works are in progress. It was informed that road widening of Chunchaghatta Road and 5th Main Road would be taken up as per rules to ease traffic congestion.

Officials were given timelines for desilting drains in Sadanandappa Layout, addressing underground drainage issues in Bireeshwara Nagar, and repairing BWSSB pipelines.

Deployment of additional pourakarmikas, auto tippers, and lorries was also directed.

A survey was ordered to identify encroachments in Ganapathipura Lake and near Manipal Hospital on Kanakapura Road. Authorities were instructed to verify setback violations by Maruti and Hyundai showrooms.

Directions were issued to plant flowering saplings on road medians. Forest Department officials were instructed to identify and prune hazardous dry tree branches.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA M Krishnappa stated that issues are resolved more efficiently when officials and elected representatives reach citizens at their doorstep. The Commissioner informed that the progress of all instructions issued would be reviewed after 15 days.

The drive was carried out under the leadership of Joint Commissioner Madhu, Deputy Commissioner Gagana, along with revenue officers, who personally inspected properties in Jayanagar.

Students' midnight ride for Hosakote biryani turns nightmare

BENGALURU

What began as a pre-dawn biryani run turned into a terrifying experience for four college students who were kidnapped, beaten, and robbed while returning to Bengaluru after a late-night trip for the much-acclaimed Hosakote biryani. The group, including two visitors from Hyderabad, set off around 4am on Sunday drawn by the cult status of Hosakote biryani among the city's night owls. After enjoying their meal, the four, Saketh Reddy, R Manoj, Revant Reddy, and Sujal, headed back to KR Pura, unaware that their ride home would turn into a nightmare.

At Medahalli near Avalahalli, around 5:20am, their bikes were blocked by a gang of 14 to 15 young men. The attackers questioned the students about their identities and whereabouts before assaulting them without provocation. The four were forcibly taken to a nearby room where they were held captive.Inside, the abductors allegedly used the victims' mobile phones to transfer Rs 1.08 lakh online to their bank accounts. They also stole Rs 40,000 in cash, three mobile phones, and a 23-gram gold chain, totalling Rs 1.48 lakh.

The ordeal continued as the gang demanded more money and forced Saketh, a second-year BBA student from Bagalur, to ask his friends for urgent fund transfers. One alert friend sensed trouble and contacted the police control room.

City Police review security arrangements

BENGALURU

With New Year's Eve festivities approaching, the city police have intensified the security measures to ensure public safety.

City Police Commissioner Seemanth Kumar Singh conducted a field inspection of the Indranagar area, a celebration hub in the city, to ensure security measures and crowd management.

The Commissioner said, I went to Indiranagar police station limits with my officers to review the preparations done at various levels. They are under the scheme that we made, and I held detailed discussions. A lot of people come to celebrate here and to check the avoidance of any anti-social elements, as well as to check that the guidelines are being followed. Our officers have made great preparations.

The city police also posted on X and informed of a social media campaign called 'Celebrate Responsibly', urging citizens to coordinate with the police during the New Year festivities.

City Police Commissioner, Seemanth Kumar Singh, is sharing an important message with the public. Informing about the steps taken by the police to ensure a safe New Year celebration for every citizen, he urged everyone to behave with courtesy and cooperation with the police during the celebrations, along with running a social media campaign called "Celebrate Responsibly", it posted on 'X'.

Former software engineer kills estranged wife

BENGALURU

A 40-year-old former software engineer allegedly shot and killed his estranged wife, who was a bank manager, near Magadi Road after receiving a divorce notice. The accused, who had been trailing his estranged wife for months, surrendered at the local police station immediately after the crime.

A long-standing marital dispute ended in tragedy on December 23, when 39-year-old Bhuvaneshwari was fatally shot while returning from work. The Magadi Road police have registered a case of murder under Section 103) following the surrender of her husband, Balamurugan.

The couple, who got married in 2011 and have two children, had been living separately for the past 18 months due to constant misunderstandings. Bhuvaneshwari, an Assistant Manager at the Union Bank of India's Basaveshwaranagar branch, had moved to Rajajinagar six months ago to distance herself from her husband. Balamurugan, a former software engineer at a prominent firm in Whitefield, reportedly suspected his wife of having an affair and strongly opposed her demands for a legal separation.

Investigations reveal that Balamurugan had been searching for his family's new location for months. After discovering their residence, he moved to the Cholurpalya area four months ago to monitor her movements. The situation escalated last week when he officially received a divorce notice from Bhuvaneshwari.

BOOST FOR TOURIST GUIDES

Licence system for tourist guides planned

BENGALURU

The government has decided to bring in tourist guide reforms by training professionals and giving them a licence to operate. Currently, tourist guides are issued accreditation and training programmes are offered for anyone in the age group of 21-45 years for general category and up to 48 years for SC/STs, who have passed class 12 to become local guides or degree for state-level guides. The training is conducted as and when necessary and includes classes in history, functional English and another foreign language. There are 421 registered guides in state and many more who operate without accreditation. Tourism department wants to bring all guides under one umbrella to ensure uniformity. Tourist guides are a prime area we'd like to focus on at this juncture. We want to get them officially accredited and ensure there is uniformity in the services they provide as well as the fares they charge, KV Thrilok Chandra, Principal Secretary, Tourism Department, told. To breach the language barrier, the department also plans to deploy multilingual translation devices, along with AR/VR tools which can help in storytelling at tourist sites.

Technology could even obviate the need for guides. However, we need to balance human resources and technology. We will see which destinations have enough tourist guides available and focus on training them. Wherever technology could make a better impact than human intervention, in such places we will employ technological tools, Chandra added.

Another official said experts are being consulted to make additions and changes to the syllabus being taught to guides.

State Consumer Forum: 2.55L Cases Registered, 2.48L Disposed

BENGALURU

The National Consumer Day 2025 program organized by the Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs was inaugurated by Minister of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, KH Muniyappa.

Speaking at a programme organized by the City Government Employees' Association at Cubbon Park, the Minister said that around 2,55,466 cases have been registered with the State Consumer Forum, out of which 2,48,072 cases have been disposed of, and 97 percent of the work has been completed, while 7394, or 3 percent, cases are pending. On this occasion, he said that Shivashinkar Gowda should be congratulated for his work.

He said that steps will be taken to appoint the President of the District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum in some districts of the state very soon.

When I saw a case here, if a doctor does not do his job properly, the patient's life will not be saved.

QUICK READ

Strict Punishment Sought in Honour Killing Case

DHARWAD

Members of the Anti-Atrocities Against Women Union on Wednesday staged a protest in front of the Deputy Commissioner's office in Hubballi taluk, condemning the honour killing reported from Inamveerapura village. The protesters said the girl was brutally murdered by her father for marrying a man from another caste, without regard to the fact that she was pregnant. Terming the act inhuman, the organisation demanded strict punishment for the father and all other accused. They also urged the authorities to conduct a thorough and impartial probe into the case to ensure justice.

Ayyappaswamy Puja on December 25 at Cotton Sale Society

GADAG

The District Sri Ayyappaswamy Seva Samiti will organise the annual Ayyappaswamy Puja programme on December 25 at 6.30 pm at the premises of the Gadag Cooperative Cotton Sale Society in the city. The event is being held as part of the yearly religious observance. Dr H K Patil, Minister for Law, Justice, Human Rights, Parliamentary Affairs, Legislation and Tourism and district in-charge minister, along with D R Patil, Vice-Chairman of the Karnataka State Decentralization Planning and Development Committee, will lead the puja rituals. Ravi Moolimani, Chairman of the AAP Cotton Sale Society, and B B Asuti, President of the City Congress Committee, have appealed to all Maladhariswamys of Ayyappaswamy to take part in large numbers and make the programme a success.

Inter-District Sports Hostel Wrestling Tournament Launched at KH Patil Stadium

District launches inter-district wrestling tournament urging athletes to maximise facilities, target glory

GADAG

Deputy Commissioner C N Sridhar on Wednesday called upon young athletes to make full use of the district's world-class sports infrastructure and aim for success at the national and international levels. He was speaking at the inauguration of the two-day inter-district level sports hostel wrestling tournament at the wrestling hall of the KH Patil District Stadium.

Highlighting Gadag's strong sporting ecosystem, Sridhar said the district boasts high-quality facilities such as the KH Patil District Stadium and the Mahatma Gandhi Stadium, which are among the best in the State outside Bengaluru. "Such facilities should be put to optimum use so that athletes from this district can shine on bigger platforms," he said. The tournament has been organised by the District Administration, District Panchayat and the Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports for boys and girls in the under-15, under-17 and under-23 age categories. Sridhar urged participants to draw inspiration from accomplished athletes from Gadag district, including Binu Bat, Raju Bagade, Vilas Neelgund, Harish Mutagara, Prema Huchannavar and Neelamma Malligawada, who have represented the country at the international level.

More than 300 wrestlers from Gadag, Shivamogga, Bagalkot, Dharwad, Davanagere, Uttara Kannada and Belagavi districts are taking part in the competition. The Deputy Commissioner said such tournaments play a vital role in identifying and nurturing talent among students training in sports hostels. He congratulated the Assistant Director and staff of the Youth Empowerment and Sports Department for organising the event efficiently, including arrangements for food, accommodation and competition management. He also encouraged athletes to visit tourist spots in the district to learn about its history and culture. Dr Vinod Kumar, head of the decision-making committee of the Karnataka Wrestling Association, said the present era offers several opportunities for sportspersons, and athletes should leverage them to excel in wrestling. He noted that Gadag district has exceptional facilities, including an international-level hockey stadium, a 400-metre synthetic track, football ground, cricket net practice area, indoor stadiums and swimming pools.

Assistant Director of the Youth Empowerment and Sports Department Dr Sharanu Gogeri delivered the introductory address. District Wrestling Association president Vasanth Siddammanahalli, coaches Raju Phalke, Nagaraja, Shivananda, Manju Bagade, Vidya Kulkarni, Roopa Gowdar, along with coaches and athletes from various districts, were present.

Leopard Sighting Triggers Panic, Sleepless Nights

HUBBALLI

The sighting of a leopard in Hubballi has created panic among residents, with many people losing sleep amid fears of the big cat's movement in residential areas. The leopard was first spotted on the road leading to the airport from the Gamanagatti area and the visuals were captured on mobile phones by locals. Later, the same leopard was reportedly seen in the Renuka Nagar area along Gokul Road, further heightening concern. Following the reports, forest department officials rushed to the locations and carried out inspections.

National Farmers' Day Celebrated at Agricultural Extension Education Center, Farmers Honored

KOPPAL

Prosperous farmers and farmer women of Koppal district were honored on Wednesday at the National Farmers' Day celebration held at the Agricultural Extension Education Center. The programme was organized in collaboration with the University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur, Agricultural Extension Education Center, Department of Agriculture, Atma Yojana, Department of Horticulture, District Committee of Karnataka Pradesh Krishika Samaj, and Agricultural Technicians' Association under the slogan, "Developed India 2047 – Role of FPOs in Globalizing Indian Agriculture."

Presiding over the event, Thimmanna Somappa Chavadi, Management Board member of the University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur, highlighted the contributions of Chaudhary Charan Singh, whose birthday is observed as National Farmers' Day to honor the dedication of Indian farmers. He emphasized that agriculture should never be abandoned and noted the significance of traditional farmer festivals such as Mannettina Amavasya and Ella Amavasya.

Professor and Extension Officer Dr M V Ravi delivered the introductory speech, stressing the importance of agricultural development and support for farmers. Krishna Ukkunda, Joint Director of the Horticulture Department, encouraged farmers to adopt horticulture as a sustainable, income-generating venture, and shared information on drip irrigation and other departmental schemes.

Speakers at the event included Siddeshwar, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Sanna Hanumappa Hulli, President of Krishika Samaj, member Virupanna Halligudi, HOPCOMS President Yankanna Yarashi, Veeranna K Kamatara, Vice President of Agricultural Technologists' Organization, and retired Agriculture Officer M K Patil. Staff from Atma Yojana and the Agriculture Department actively participated in the programme.

Farmers must be encouraged to continue the profession through government support and initiatives.

Hanumantha Walikara, a progressive farmer from Talakal village, addressed attendees, promoting organic and natural farming practices and emphasizing that farmers' products fetch fair prices primarily through direct marketing. His insights inspired participants to explore sustainable and profitable farming methods.

Let's Boost Farmers' Morale, Says MLA MR Patil

DHARWAD

MLA MR Patil on Wednesday stressed the need to support and boost the morale of farmers, who are grappling with financial difficulties due to unpredictable weather and inadequate crop prices.

He was speaking at the inauguration of the Farmers' Day programme organized by the Agriculture Department in Kundgol town and addressing a Kisan Goshti programme under the Atma scheme.

Patil said, "Farmers are the backbone of the country, yet they face hardships. Often, when crops yield well, proper prices are not offered, and when prices are adequate, the crop is damaged. While there is a fixed price for many commodities, farmers' produce lacks recognition and value."

He highlighted schemes like Kisan Samman and emphasized the need to simplify the procurement process for crops such as moong, cow, and jowar. Patil assured farmers that their concerns have been raised in the legislative assembly and that the administration stands with them.

The programme was attended by Agriculture University Administrative Advisory Board member Maltesh Shyagoti, Agriculture Department Director Rekha, Krishak Samaj President Arvind Katgi, BJP Taluk President Naganagouda Satmara, and farmer leaders including Somrao Desai, Basavaraj Navalli, and Nagaraj Deshpande. Other dignitaries present included Manikya Chilura, Ramesh Koppada Shekhanna Balikai, Mallikarjuna Kunnur, Mallanna Maradagi, Danappa Gangai, and Hemanagouda Basanagouda.

The event aimed to provide guidance, address farmer grievances, and motivate them to overcome challenges in agriculture.

MLA MR Patil urged boosting farmer morale amid weather losses and poor prices, highlighting welfare schemes, simpler procurement, and government support at Farmers' Day and Kisan Goshti in Kundgol town.

Greed Breeds Corruption, Says Justice Santosh Hegde

DHARWAD

Retired Lokayukta Justice Santosh Hegde on Wednesday stressed the need to eliminate corruption and greed from society, noting that today's work is driven by promotions and the desire to accumulate wealth rather than self-satisfaction. Addressing the audience at the inauguration of the Samaj Parivarthana Samithi Charitable Programme and Hiremath Samaj Parivartan Puraskar ceremony at Karnataka Vidyavardhaka Sangha's Dr. Patil Puttappa auditorium, he said, "People want to make money, build houses, and become rich, but few earn honestly within the framework of the law or pay taxes fairly."

Justice Hegde highlighted the alarming scale of corruption, citing scams worth Rs 1,86,000 crore—equivalent to half of the state's annual budget—as a reflection of rampant greed. He expressed concern over declining societal values and the absence of contentment in daily life.

Stressing the importance of moral education, he urged schools to teach children ethical values and lessons in integrity from a young age. Justice Hegde concluded that fostering contentment and honesty is essential to curb corruption and ensure a just and responsible society.

Devotees Undertake Padayatra to Mantralayam

DHARWAD

Devotees of Raghavendra Swamy from Navalgund town began their annual padayatra to Mantralayam on Wednesday.

Lingaraj Desai, a veteran pilgrim, said he has been participating in the yatra for the past 20 years and plans to walk continuously for eight days, returning on the ninth day after having darshan of Raghavendra Swamy. Netaji Kalala wished the pilgrims a safe journey, emphasizing that the devotees' efforts for the welfare of the state are commendable.

The padayatra was attended by several prominent local figures, including Siddappa Hanchinal, Manjunath Desai, Nikhilabigera, Manju Marakumbi, Kumaraswamy Yelaburgi Mutt, Chandrashekar Marasiddannavar, Girish Harivalada, Shivu Shalavadi, and Kumar Kalala.

The annual yatra, undertaken with devotion and discipline, draws hundreds of pilgrims each year, reflecting the deep faith of Raghavendra Swamy's followers and their commitment to spiritual practice. Participants carry out the long journey on foot, combining devotion, endurance, and community spirit.

CLARIFICATION FOR CONTROVERSY

Food Safety Officials Clarify Non-Involvement in School Ration Tender

KOPPAL

The Food Safety and Drug Administration (FSDA) of Koppal district has clarified that its designated officials are not involved in the tender process for the supply of rations to government schools. Recent reports in some local newspapers alleged that the district Food Safety Department was responsible for contaminated meals, including worms, and had participated in the tender process by coordinating with contractors.

The FSDA stated that the Karnataka Food and Civil Supplies Corporation Limited, a government organization, manages the supply and tendering of ration items at both state and central levels. District Food Safety officials have not participated in these processes.

Food samples for government schools are routinely collected from the Corporation's warehouse and analyzed as per state guidelines. New stock is tested upon arrival, and periodic sampling is conducted in schools to ensure safety and quality.

The office specifically refuted allegations that authorized officers, including Dr Alakananda Malagi and her staff, colluded with contractors for ration distribution, calling such claims "baseless and damaging to credibility."

Official records show that in 2023-24, three food samples were collected from the warehouse, three in 2024-25, and 37 samples were analyzed. In the current fiscal, 17 warehouse samples have been collected. School-level testing included 20 samples in 2023-24, 35 in 2024-25, and 46 in 2025-26.

The FSDA release emphasized that these measures are part of a systematic monitoring protocol to ensure the safety and quality of school meals and that any misinformation undermines the integrity and morale of the officials involved.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, GIRIJA SURYAVANSHI
(Old name) address: 74
SIDDRAMESHWAR NAGAR
ANAND NAGAR HUBLI.
Has changed my name;
GIRIJA SUBHASH
SURYAVANSHI
(New name) for all purposes.
Vide Affidavit dated:
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I, PUSHPA V SAVADATTI
(Old name)
address: AT KAGADAL
POST PARASGAD.
Has changed my name:
PUSHPA VITTAL METI
(new name)
For all purposes.
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19/12/2025 before notary
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QUICK READ

Applications Invited for PhD Fellowship for Backward Candidates

CHIKKABALLAPUR

The Backward Classes Welfare Department has invited applications for PhD Fellowship from eligible candidates belonging to Category-I, II (A), III (A) and III (B) of the Backward Classes of Karnataka State. The fellowship is aimed at supporting research scholars through a monthly stipend and fellowship assistance during their doctoral studies. According to officials, the fellowship is open only to new candidates who have commenced their first year of full-time PhD studies during the academic year 2025–26, with the date of commencement being on or after February 10, 2025. Candidates who began their PhD before this date are not eligible to apply under this scheme.

Job Fair to Be Held on Dec 29, Says District Employment Exchange

MANDYA

The District Employment Exchange Office has announced that a Job Fair will be organised on December 29 at the District Employment Exchange Centre in Mandya. The initiative aims to provide employment opportunities to eligible unemployed youth of the district, according to an official release issued on December 24. As many as 8 to 10 companies are expected to participate in the job fair, conducting on-the-spot recruitment drives. The selection process will be carried out for candidates from Mandya district, with special focus on providing opportunities to beneficiaries of the Yuvanidhi Scheme, officials said.

Last Date Extended for Post-Matric Scholarship Applications

MANDYA

The Backward Classes Welfare Department has extended the last date for submitting online applications for various post-matric scholarship schemes for the academic year 2025–26, providing relief to eligible students who are yet to apply. The announcement was made by district officials in Mandya. The extension applies to students belonging to backward classes who are pursuing post-matric courses other than PUC and general courses, as well as Category-I nomadic and semi-nomadic students. The schemes covered under this extension include the Post-Matric Scholarship, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Post-Matric Eligibility Scholarship, Fees Refund Scheme, and the Student Meal and Housing Assistance Scheme.

Police Crack Agricultural Equipment Theft Case, 3 Arrested

Police in Bhalki taluk busted a major agricultural equipment theft case, arresting three accused and seizing valuables.

BHALKI

Police have successfully cracked a case involving the theft of trolleys and agricultural equipment reported from Hulasura, falling under the jurisdiction of Mehakar Police Station in Bhalki taluk. Acting swiftly on leads, the police arrested three accused and recovered stolen items worth ₹17.15 lakh, officials said. The arrested individuals have been identified as Vishwanath Roopnar (28), Manoj Rajendra Gunage (38), and Panduranga Madhavarao Sanganale (20), all residents of Donagaon (M) village. During interrogation, the accused allegedly confessed to their involvement in multiple thefts of trolleys and farm equipment from different locations across Bidar district.

According to the police, the gang specifically targeted agricultural machinery left unattended in fields and farm premises, causing significant losses to farmers in the region. Based on the confessions and subsequent recovery operations, officers seized a blue trolley, green-yellow and purple-yellow trolleys, two tractor chassis, and two iron seed drills.

In addition, a John Deere tractor engine believed to have been used during the commission of the crime was recovered, along with a Pulsar motorcycle allegedly used by the accused for transportation and scouting. The total value of the seized items is estimated at ₹17.15 lakh, marking a major recovery in recent rural theft cases. Police officials stated that the arrests have brought relief to farmers who had reported repeated incidents of agricultural equipment theft in and around Bhalki taluk. Investigators are also verifying whether the accused were involved in similar cases in neighbouring areas and are checking past records to ascertain if the gang operated beyond Bidar district. The successful operation was carried out by PSI Sudarshan Reddy and the staff of Mehakar Police Station under the leadership of Bhalki Rural CPI Hanuma Reddy. Senior officers praised the team for their coordinated effort, timely action, and effective use of intelligence inputs to solve the case.

Police verification certificates are now compulsory for guest teachers in government schools, Child Rights Commission chairperson announced.

Police Verification Made Mandatory for Guest Teachers

CHIKKABALLAPUR

In a significant move aimed at strengthening child safety in government schools, the Chairman of the Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Shashidhar Kosambe, has directed that all guest teachers appointed in government schools must mandatorily submit police verification certificates.

The directive was issued during a grievance redressal programme on the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009, held at the district administration building in Chikkaballapur on December 24.

Addressing officials from multiple departments, Kosambe instructed the Deputy Director of the School Education Department to ensure that no guest teacher is allowed to continue in service without a police verification certificate issued by the police department. He warned that the commission would initiate suo motu legal proceedings if compliance is not ensured within a week. The commission, he said, had come across instances in other districts where individuals involved in criminal activities and facing police cases were working as guest teachers. Such persons were subsequently removed from service.

To prevent similar incidents, Kosambe emphasized the need to thoroughly verify the background of all guest teachers in Chikkaballapur district and ensure there are no such cases pending.

During the programme, officials informed that the district has 1,842 schools and that the 2016 Child Protection Policy is being implemented across these institutions. However, Kosambe directed the Women and Child Development Department officials to conduct surprise inspections of at least ten schools and submit a detailed report within a week to verify actual implementation.

Attention was also drawn to issues related to student welfare schemes. Of the 1,59,892 students studying in district schools, Aadhaar details of 41,939 students have not yet been uploaded to their respective bank accounts. As a result, these students are being deprived of government scholarship benefits.

The chairperson instructed officials to complete this process at the earliest. It was further revealed that many children do not possess birth certificates.

Man Trapped for 4 Hours Inside Leopard Cage Near Gangavadi

CHAMARAJANAGAR

In a bizarre and frightening incident that shocked villagers, a man was accidentally trapped inside a leopard capture cage for nearly four hours near Gangavadi village in Yelandur of Chamarajanagar district.

The incident followed a leopard attack, when the big cat strayed into farmland belonging to Ramaiah at Gangavadi and killed three livestock animals. The attack triggered panic among villagers, who feared further movement of the leopard in and around the village.

Responding to the situation, local MLA A. R. Krishnamurthy visited the affected area and instructed the Karnataka Forest Department to take immediate steps to capture the leopard. Acting swiftly, forest officials installed two leopard cages on Sunday—one in Ramaiah's farmland and another in the isolated agricultural land of Rudra, located far from the village and rarely frequented by people.

At around 10:30 a.m., Kitti, a resident of Gangavadi, went alone to inspect the cage placed in Rudra's field.

Rotary Mysore distributes 230 insulin bags to beneficiaries

MYSURU

Rotary Mysore, in observance of Rotary International's Disease Prevention & Treatment Month, successfully distributed over 230 insulin storage bags to patients in need. This impactful initiative was made possible through the generous sponsorship of Sunil of

Living Style Furniture. The distribution ceremony was graced by eminent medical and community leaders, including: Dr. Dakshayani K. R, Dean & Director, Sunil & family, Living Style Furniture, Dr. Sunil H, Governing Council Member, Ravi Shankar D, President, Rotary Mysore, Sanjay G, Secretary, Rotary Mysore, Dr. Pradeep N, Head of Pediatrics, Dr. Nagendra, In-charge, Pediatric Diabetic Clinic, Dr. M. R. Savitha, Senior Professor. Alongside these dignitaries, several Rotarians were present to extend their support and solidarity, underscoring Rotary's collective commitment to community health. These specially designed insulin bags will enable patients to safely carry and store insulin at the required temperature, ensuring continuity of treatment and better health outcomes. Many of the beneficiaries travelled from rural areas located 20–30 kilometres outside Mysuru, highlighting the critical need for accessible healthcare support in underserved communities.

DRUG RACKET BUSTED

Police Bust Inter-State Drug Supply Network, 4 Arrested

DAVANAGERE

In a significant crackdown on drug trafficking, Davanagere police have dismantled a network allegedly supplying narcotics from Rajasthan to Davangere, arresting four people and seizing drugs worth ₹10 lakh along with ₹1 lakh in cash. Among those arrested is Congress leader Shamanur Vedamurthy, police sources confirmed. The operation was carried out by the Vidyanagar Police Station team following a tip-off that drugs were being distributed at a public park in the city's J.H. Patel area. Acting swiftly on the intelligence input, police conducted a raid, leading to the arrest of the accused at the spot.

The other arrested persons have been identified as Ram Swaroop (33), Dholaram (36), and Dev Kishan (35), all residents of Siddhaveerappa block in Jodhpur taluk. During the operation, police seized approximately 200 grams of opium (OPM) and 90 grams of MDMA (MDM), along with cash believed to be proceeds from the illegal trade. Officials stated that the total value of the seized drugs is estimated at around ₹10 lakh. According to investigators, the accused were allegedly part of a larger inter-state network transporting narcotics from Rajasthan and distributing them in Davangere and surrounding areas. Police revealed that three more suspects connected to the racket are currently absconding, and efforts are underway to track them down.

Following their arrest, the accused were interrogated and later produced before a court, which remanded them to judicial custody. During the course of the investigation, police also discovered that Ram Swaroop has multiple cases registered against him under the Narcotics and Arms Acts in Jodhpur, Rajasthan, indicating his alleged involvement in similar offences in the past. Senior police officials stated that the bust marks an important step in curbing the flow of narcotics into central Karnataka and reiterated their commitment to intensifying surveillance and intelligence-based operations. We are closely examining the supply chain and financial links to identify all those involved in this racket, an officer said.

Tornahalli Cattle Fair Date Announced

KOLAR

The iconic Tornahalli cattle fair in Kolar will commence from January 1 with grand preparations underway.

The dates for the famed Tornahalli cattle fair in Kolar district—one of the largest and most significant livestock fairs in Karnataka—have been officially finalised. The Saplamma Devi Jathra 2026 will be held over a span of ten days, beginning January 1, drawing farmers, traders, breeders, and visitors from across the state and neighbouring regions.

Known for its scale and tradition, the Tornahalli fair is a major hub for the buying and selling of high-value livestock, with cattle worth several lakhs of rupees changing hands during the event. This year, organisers are placing special emphasis on animal welfare and modern management practices, combining age-old traditions with advanced technology. One of the major attractions of the fair will be the grand parade of cattle, where specially bred and meticulously maintained bulls are showcased. These are not animals prepared for sporting events like Jallikattu, but elite breeds brought exclusively for display and trade at the fair. Many of these bulls are valued at several lakhs of rupees, reflecting the growing investment in quality livestock.

To ensure comfort and care, the cattle sheds at Tornahalli have been equipped with modern facilities. Massive bullock carts line the cattle enclosures, while barns are fitted with fan systems to maintain proper ventilation. CCTV surveillance has been installed across the fairgrounds to enhance security and monitor the well-being of animals. In addition, focus light systems are being used to regulate temperature and prevent cattle from suffering due to cold conditions, especially during the night.

The adoption of such high-tech arrangements marks a significant evolution in the way traditional cattle fairs are organised in Karnataka. Officials and organisers say these measures not only improve animal health and safety but also increase buyer confidence, contributing to better trade outcomes for farmers and breeders. Apart from livestock trading, the Saplamma Devi Jathra holds immense religious and cultural significance. Devotees are expected to gather in large numbers to offer prayers to Saplamma Devi, making the event a blend of commerce, culture, and faith.

Sringeri Sharada Peetam to manage a chain of GSSS Institutions

MYSURU

In a historic move aimed at merging excellence in education while upholding the traditions and values of Sanatan dharma for millenia to come the Management of Geetha Shishu Shikshana Sangha (GSSS), Mysuru, has officially announced that all educational institutions managed by it will now come under the patronage of the holy Sri Sringeri Sharada Peetam. The formal announcement was made by Sri Vidhushekara Bharathi Maha Swamiji, at the 'Guru Vandana Samarambha' held at the GSSS IETW here, after witnessing the rendition of Stuthi Shankara. This decision is the result of more than 18 months of deliberations by both institutions when the then Hon. Secretary late Vanaja B. Pandit led the GSSS Management to approach Sri Sannidhanam with a request for the Sri Sharada

Peetam to take over the reins of future growth, development and administration of GSSS that was founded and built by the untiring and conscientious efforts of her late husband Prof. B. S. Pandit.

Following this, Guruseva Niratha Administrator &amp; CEO of Sri Sringeri sharada peetham Murali P. A. was tasked with conducting the necessary interactions.

With the divine blessings of Maha Sannidanam Sri Sri Bharathi Teertha Maha Swamiji and Sannidhanam Sri Sri Vidhushekara Bharathi Maha Swamiji, the proposal to embrace GSSS institutions under the Peetham's fold was accepted. Henceforth, the educational institutions of Gita Bharathi School of Excellence, Siddharth Nagar, Bantwal Madhava Shenoy High School, Siddharth Nagar, BadriPrasadJi PU College, Siddharth Nagar GSSS Simha Subba Mahalakshmi First Grade College, Metagalli, GSSS Institute of Engineering and Technology for Women, Metagalli, GSSS School of Architecture for Women, Metagalli will be directed by Sri Sringeri Sharada Peetham. Anupama B. Pandit submitted a report to Sri Sannidhanam detailing the journey of GSSS from a single classroom in 1981 to a huge organization with three campuses, 5,000 students, and 450 staff members.

‘Public Awareness on Consumer Protection Act Is Essential’

Justice V. Somasekhar stressed the need for awareness on consumer rights during National Consumer Day celebrations

CHITRADURGA

Emphasising the importance of consumer awareness, First Additional District and Sessions Judge V. Somasekhar said that educating the public about the Consumer Protection Act is crucial to safeguard consumer rights. He was speaking after inaugurating the National Consumer Day–2025 programme organised in Chitradurga on December 24.

The event was held at Valmiki Bhavan under the joint auspices of the district administration, Zilla Panchayat, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department, District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, Legal Metrology Department, Backward Classes Welfare Department, Food Safety and Drug Administration, District Scheduled Castes Welfare Department, District Advocates’ Association, and Chitradurga District LPG Distributors.

Justice Somasekhar noted that the Consumer Protection Act was first implemented on December 24, 1986, with the objective of protecting consumer interests. To commemorate the enactment of the Act, National Consumer Day is observed every year. He said the 2025 theme, Effective and Speedy Redressal through Digital Justice, highlights the growing role of technology in resolving consumer disputes efficiently.

He stressed that obtaining a receipt after purchasing any product or service is not only a consumer’s right but also a civic duty, as it ensures tax compliance and strengthens the country’s economy. Only when consumers preserve valid bills and documents can they seek legal remedies in cases of service deficiency or unfair trade practices, he added.

Justice Somasekhar explained that consumer dispute redressal commissions function at district, state, and national levels to protect consumer rights. Under the Act, consumers are guaranteed six fundamental rights: the right to safety, information, choice, to be heard, to seek redressal, and to consumer education.

Addressing the gathering, District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission President H. N. Meena said a person legally becomes a consumer only when a valid receipt is obtained for goods or services.

> Speaking at National Consumer Day 2025 in Chitradurga, Judge V. Somasekhar stressed consumer awareness of the Consumer Protection Act. He highlighted digital justice for speedy redressal, urged consumers to collect receipts, outlined six consumer rights, and noted dispute redressal commissions operate at district, state, and national levels nationwide legal framework.

QUICK READ

Objections Called for Tentative Anganwadi Worker List

CHINTAMANI

The Child Development Project Office under the Women and Child Development Department has invited objections to the provisional selection list of Anganwadi workers and Anganwadi helpers for vacant posts in the Chintamani Child Development Project area of Chikkaballapur district. The announcement was made on December 24, with officials emphasizing transparency and fairness in the recruitment process. According to the official notification, the provisional list of candidates selected for the vacant Anganwadi worker and helper posts has been displayed on the notice board of the Chintamani Child Development Project Office. Candidates who had applied for these posts are advised to carefully verify the details.

Bus Tyre Burst Triggers Serial Accident, Seven Injuredw

KOPPAL

Seven people were injured, two of them seriously, after a school bus tyre burst and triggered a serial accident at Sriramanagar in Gangavathi taluk on Wednesday. Police said the bus lost control after the tyre burst and rammed into a taxi and a motorcycle. The injured include staff members travelling in the school bus, three persons on the motorcycle and four occupants of the taxi. The impact caused panic in the area and disrupted traffic briefly. All the injured were shifted to the Gangavathi taluk hospital for treatment. Doctors said the condition of two victims remains serious. A case has been registered under the Gangavathi Rural police station, and further investigation is under way.

Police Issue Appeal to Trace Missing Electrician

CHITRADURGA

The Chitradurga City Police have issued an appeal to the public to help trace a missing person, following a complaint registered regarding the disappearance of an electrician from the city. The missing individual has been identified as Thippeswamy, aged 45, son of Ramachandrappa, and a resident of Jatpat Nagar on Jogimatti Road in Chitradurga. According to the police complaint filed by his family, Thippeswamy left home on November 29 for work but did not return. Despite efforts by family members and relatives to locate him, there has been no information about his whereabouts, prompting them to approach the police.

Allegations of Unsafe Drain Cleaning Spark Outrage

HOLAKALLU

Serious allegations of labour law violations and disregard for worker safety have surfaced against officials of the Holakallu Gram Panchayat in the Tumakuru Rural Assembly Constituency. It has been alleged that workers were forced to enter and clean a clogged drainage line without being provided with basic safety equipment, despite clear Supreme Court directives prohibiting such practices.According to the complaint, the incident occurred in front of a government school in Holakallu village, where drainage water was not flowing freely. Instead of adopting mechanised methods or ensuring proper safety measures, officials of the Holakallu Gram Panchayat allegedly arranged for manual cleaning. As the panchayat’s own sanitation workers were reportedly on leave, two labourers were brought in from Koratagere.

It is alleged that these workers were made to descend into the drain without essential protective equipment such as gumboots, gloves, masks, or any other safety gear. The workers were reportedly given only basic tools like crowbars and were forced to carry out the cleaning with bare hands, exposing them to serious health hazards.

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NAME CHANGE

I, **ABDUL FAYAZ MOHAMMAD**, S/o M A Khaleel, Resident No 3/38, Gadang Street, Penukonda, Sri Satya Sai, Andhra Pradesh - 515110, have changed my name to **M A FAYAZ AHAMAD**, Vide Affidavit Dated: 23.12.2025 before notary C.V.EARAPPA, Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE

I, **FAIZA ANJUM MOHAMMAD**, D/o. M A Eayaz Ahamad, resident No 3/38, Gadang Street, Penukonda, Sri Satya Sai, Andhra Pradesh - 515110, have changed my name to **A FAIZA ANJUM**, Vide Affidavit Dated: 23.12.2025 before notary C.V.EARAPPA, Bengaluru.

BEFORE THE COURT OF XXXVIII ADDITIONAL CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE, AT BENGALURU

CC No.29334/2022

BETWEEN: M/s. GILADA FINANCE AND INVESTMENTS LIMITED, Registered office at No.105, R.R Takt, 37, Bhoopasandra Main Road, Bengaluru-560 094. Represented by its Authorized Signatory Mrs. Iswaria Rajan, Wife of J. Yuvaraj, Aged about 37 years Bengaluru-560 040. **... COMPLAINANT**

AND: Mr. GURUMURTHY .N, Son of Nagaraju, Proprietor of M/s. Jai Maruthi Enterprises Residing at No. 157, Anadannappa Layout, Doaddabidirikallu Ward No. 40, Bengaluru-560 073. Also, at: M/s. Jai Maruthi Enterprises, No. 15/3, Mariyappa Complex, Ganapathi Nagar, 3rd Phase Peenya, Behind Mariyappa Marriage House, Bengaluru-560 058. Phone No. 748385546/9739816406.. **... ACCUSED**

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHEREAS, the Complainant has filed the above complaint before the Hon'ble XXXVIII Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bengaluru, against Sri. Guru Murthy N for offence punishable under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 and the arrest warrant issued thereupon has returned and that the said accused Sri. Guru Murthy N cannot be found.

AND WHEREAS, it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Hon'ble XXXVIII Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bengaluru that the said accused has been absconding or concealing themselves to avoid the service of the said Warrant.

Proclamation is hereby made that Sri. Guru Murthy N is required to appear before the Hon'ble court of XXXVIII Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate at Bengaluru to answer the said complaint on **03-01-2026.**

Given under my hand and seal of the court on 24-12-2025.

By order of the court, Senior Sheristedar, XXXVIII ADDL, Chief Judicial Magistrate Court at Bangalore City.

NEERAJ RAJIV SHIVAM
M/s. ASTRA LAW CHAMBERS,
Advocates
No. 4, Pamadi Towers, 1st floor, Flat No. 11, Kalidasa Road, Gandhinagar,
Bangalore - 560 009.

BEFORE THE COURT OF XXXVIII ADDITIONAL CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE, AT BENGALURU

CC No.33746/2021

BETWEEN: M/s. GILADA FINANCE AND INVESTMENTS LIMITED, Registered office at No.105, R.R Takt, 37, Bhoopasandra Main Road, Bengaluru-560 094. Represented by its Authorized Signatory Mrs. Iswaria Rajan, Wife of J. Yuvaraj, Aged about 37 years Bengaluru-560 040. **... COMPLAINANT**

AND: Mrs. UGIYA DEVI A, Wife of Babulal G, Residing at No. 6,4th Cross, Gajanana Nagar, Near Apollo School, Bengaluru-560 091. Also, at: Bera, Nimbadiya, Near Akhand School Road, Bangri Nagar Town, Pali District, Rajasthan - 360 114. **... ACCUSED**

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHEREAS, the Complainant has filed the above complaint before the Hon'ble court of XXXVIII Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bengaluru, against Smt. Ugiya Devi for the offence punishable under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 and the arrest warrant issued thereupon has returned and that the said accused Smt. Ugiya Devi cannot be found.

AND WHEREAS, it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Hon'ble XXXVIII Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bengaluru that the said accused has been absconding or concealing themselves to avoid the service of the said Warrant.

Proclamation is hereby made that Smt. Ugiya Devi is required to appear before the Hon'ble court of XXXVIII Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate at Bengaluru to answer the said complaint on **03-01-2026**

Given under my hand and seal of the court on 24-12-2025.

By order of the court, Senior Sheristedar, XXXVIII ADDL, Chief Judicial Magistrate Court at Bangalore City.

NEERAJ RAJIV SHIVAM
M/s. ASTRA LAW CHAMBERS,
Advocates
No. 4, Pamadi Towers, 1st floor, Flat No. 11, Kalidasa Road, Gandhinagar,
Bangalore - 560 009.

BEFORE THE COURT OF XXXVIII ADDITIONAL CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE, AT BENGALURU

CC No.33753/2021

BETWEEN: M/s. GILADA FINANCE AND INVESTMENTS LIMITED, Registered office at No.105, R.R Takt, 37, Bhoopasandra Main Road, Bengaluru-560 094. Represented by its Authorized Signatory Mrs. Iswaria Rajan, Wife of J. Yuvaraj, Aged about 37 years Bengaluru-560 040. **... COMPLAINANT**

AND: Mr. NORAT BHATI, Son of Pabu Ram Bhai, Residing at No. 240,4th Cross, Raja Gopala Nagar, Main Road, Peenya 2nd Stage, BMTC Bus Stop, Bengaluru-560 058. Also, at: Riyanbadi Mertha City, Rajasthan - 341 513 **... ACCUSED**

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHEREAS, the Complainant has filed the above complaint before the Hon'ble XXXVIII Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bengaluru, against Sri. Norat Bhati for offence punishable under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 and the arrest warrant issued thereupon has returned and that the said accused Sri. Norat Bhati cannot be found.

AND WHEREAS, it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Hon'ble XXXVIII Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bengaluru that the said accused has been absconding or concealing themselves to avoid the service of the said Warrant.

Proclamation is hereby made that Sri. Norat Bhati is required to appear before the Hon'ble court of XXXVIII Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate at Bengaluru to answer the said complaint on **03.01.2026.**

Given under my hand and seal of the court on 24-12-2025.

By order of the court, Senior Sheristedar, XXXVIII ADDL, Chief Judicial Magistrate Court at Bangalore City.

NEERAJ RAJIV SHIVAM
M/s. ASTRA LAW CHAMBERS,
Advocates
No. 4, Pamadi Towers, 1st floor, Flat No. 11, Kalidasa Road, Gandhinagar,
Bangalore - 560 009.

Government of Karnataka

DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND SPORTS

State Youth Centre, Nrupathunga Road, Bengaluru - 560001.
Tel : 080-22215601, 22211246, Fax: 080 22215602

No: DYES/ES/AP/166/2025-26 **Date: 22.12.2025**

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through E-Procurement Portal Only)

Subject:- The Deputy Director (Admin), Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports, State Youth Centre, Nrupathunga Road, Bangalore-560 001, KARNATAKA INDIA invites Tender to take up the following below works;

Particulars : 1) Acoustics repair, light repair and room upgrade works at Sri Kanteerava Indoor Stadium, Bengaluru (Category Reserved - SC) Amount put to Tender : **Rs. 83.13 Lakhs** EMD : **Rs 83,134/-.** Last Date and Time for Submission of bid: **06.01.2026 time 16.00 Hrs,** Date and Time for Opening of technical bid : **07.01.2026 time 17.30 Hrs. 2)** Procurement of Electronic Shooting Targets for Mahatma Gandhi District Stadium, Tumkuru District. Amount put to Tender : **Rs. 17.85 Lakhs** EMD : **Rs 44,625/-.** Last Date and Time for Submission of bid: **07.01.2026 time 16.00 Hrs,** Date and Time for Opening of technical bid : **08.01.2026 time 17.30 Hrs. 3)** Providing RCC slabs for drains, Fencing, Ball stopper at Surrounding Hockey Court Construction of RCC Retaining wall behind Sports Hostel and Renovation of water supply sprinkler system of Hockey Turf Court & other various maintenance works at Akkithimmanahalli Hockey Stadium, Bangalore. Amount put to Tender : **Rs. 328.86 Lakhs** EMD : **Rs 4,93,291/-.** Last Date and Time for Submission of bid: **08.01.2026 time 17.00 Hrs,** Date and Time for Opening of technical bid : **09.01.2026 time 17.30 Hrs.**

The Tender shall be submitted through e-Procurement Portal **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in).** Vendors need to register in the e-Procurement Portal to submit their bids online. The tender document can be viewed free of cost from the e-Procurement Portal.

Additional information may be obtained during office hours at the above mentioned Address

Sd/-
Deputy Director (Admin)
Dept. of Youth Empowerment and Sports
(Tender Inviting Authority)

DIPR/CP/4656/ZEN/2025-26

NAME CHANGE

I, **SHABEENA AZMI**, W/o. Masood Pasha, resident of No.24, First Floor, Flat No. 101, A Street Muneshwara Temple Road, Frazer Town, Bengaluru-560005, have changed my name to **SHABEENA**, vide affidavit dated: 19.12.2025, before Notary PRAKASHA. C, Bengaluru

NAME CHANGE

I, **BUSHRA THASNEEM MOHAMMAD**, D/o Mohammed Abdul Fayaz Ahamed, resident No 3/38, Gadang Street, Penukonda, Sri Satya Sai, Andhra Pradesh - 515110, have changed my name to **ANUGULA BUSHRA TASNEEM**, Vide Affidavit Dated: 23.12.2025 before notary C.V.EARAPPA, Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE

I, **MUSSARATH SHAHEEN MOHAMMAD**, W/o. Mohammed Abdul Fayaz Ahamed, resident No 3/38, Gadang Street, Penukonda, Sri Satya Sai, Andhra Pradesh - 515110, have changed my name to **ANGULA MUSSARATH SHAHEEN**, Vide Affidavit Dated: 23.12.2025 before notary C.V.EARAPPA, Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE

I, **MUSSARATH SHAHEEN MOHAMMAD**, W/o. M A Fayaz Ahamad, resident No 3/38, Gadang Street, Penukonda, Sri Satya Sai, Andhra Pradesh - 515110, have changed my name to **A MUSSARATH SHAHEEN**, Vide Affidavit Dated: 23.12.2025 before notary C.V.EARAPPA, Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE

I, **ABDUL FAYAZ MOHAMMAD**, S/o M A Khaleel, resident No 3/38, Gadang Street, Penukonda, Sri Satya Sai, Andhra Pradesh - 515110, have changed my name to **MOHAMMED ABDUL FAYAZ AHAMED**, Vide Affidavit Dated: 23.12.2025 before notary C.V.EARAPPA, Bengaluru.

HFS | Hiranandani Financial Services

HIRANANDANI FINANCIAL SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED

Regd. Office: 514, Dalamal Towers, 211 Free Press Journal Marg, Nariman Point, Mumbai- 400021.
Corporate Office: 9th Floor, Sigma Towers, Hiranandani Business Park, Technology Street, Powai, Mumbai - 400076.
Email: wecare@hfs.in • **Website:** www.hfs.in • **Tel. No.:** 022-25763623 • **CIN No.:** U65999MH2017PTC291060

DEMAND NOTICE

UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 (“ the Act”) AND THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002 (“ the Rules”)

The undersigned being the **Authorized Officer of Hiranandani Financial Services Pvt. Ltd.** (herinafter referred to as “ **HFS**”) under the Act and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the Act read with Rule 3 issued Demand Notice(s) under Section 13(2) of the Act, calling upon the following borrower(s) to repay the amount mentioned in the respective notice(s) **within 60 days** from the date of receipt of the said notice. The undersigned reasonably believes that borrower(s) is / are avoiding the service of the Demand Notice(s), therefore the service of notice is being effected by affixation and publication as per Rules. The contents of Demand Notice(s) are extracted herein below:

Loan Account No. & Name of the Borrower / Co-Borrowers / Address	Dt. of Demand Notice U/s. 13(2) & Total O/s.	Description of Secured Assets / Mortgage Property
LAN : 4375099101024951 **Customer ID 75496** **1. Umesh Yellojirao Ranoji** (Borrower) **2. Kavita Umesh Ranoji** (Co-Borrower) **Add For Sr. No. 1:** H. No. 1837, Bapat Galli, Belgaum, Karnataka, Belgaum, Karnataka - 590001, **Also At For Sr. No. 2:** H. No. 4013 Ganachari Galli, Kaktives Road, Belagavi, Belgaum, Karnataka, 590001.	**Dated : 22.12.2025** **For LAN : 4375099101024951** **Rs. 25,68,756/-** (Rupees Twenty-Five Lakh Sixty-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred & Fifty-Six Only) & **NPA DATE : 03.12.2025**	All that part and parcel of the property Comprised in Commercial premises No. (Flat No). 101 Measuring: 1100 Square Feet Super Built Up area located on the First Floor of RCC Building Known as “Shri. Ram Residency” along with undivided share in the land 150 Sq Feets. Constructed in CTS No. 1720/B1, measuring 111.21 Sq. Feets, bearing City Corporation PID No.147924, Situated at KelkarBag Belgavi within the limits of City Corporation Belgavi District Belgavi and Jurisdiction of Registrar, Belgavi and **Bounded on the:- To the East:** By Remaining Portion of CTS No. 1720/B, **To the West:** By Road, **To the North:** By CTS No. 1719/3 and 1719/1, **To the South:** By Road. Together with anything attached to the earth or permanently fastened to anything attached to the earth with all present and future structures thereon.

The borrower(s) are hereby advised to comply with the Demand Notice(s) and to pay the demand amount mentioned therein and herein above within 60 days from the date of this publication together with applicable interest, additional interest, bounce charges, cost and expenses till the date of realization of payment. The borrower(s) may note that HFS is a secured creditor and the loan facility availed by the Borrower(s) is a secured debt against the immovable property / properties being the secured asset(s) mortgaged by the borrower(s). In the event borrower(s) are failed to discharge their liabilities in full within the stipulated time, HFS shall be entitled to exercise all the rights under section 13(4) of the Act to take possession of the secured assets(s) including but not limited to transfer the same by way of sale or by invoking any other remedy available under the Act and the Rules thereunder and realize payment. HFS is also empowered to ATTACH AND / OR SEAL the secured assets(s) before enforcing the right to sale or transfer. Subsequent to the Sale of the secured assets(s), HFS also has a right to initiate separate legal proceedings to recover the balance dues, in case the value of the mortgaged properties is insufficient to cover the dues payable to the HFS. This remedy is in addition and independent of all the other remedies available to HFS under any other law. The attention of the borrower(s) is invited to Section 13(8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets and further to Section 13(13) of the Act, whereby the borrower(s) are restrained / prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the secured asset(s) or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of business) any of the secured asset(s), without prior written consent of HFS and non-compliance with the above is an offence punishable under Section 29 of the said Act. The copy of the Demand Notice is available with the undersigned and the borrower(s) may, if they so desire, can collect the same from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours.

Sd/-
Authorised Officer,
Hiranandani Financial Services Private Limited

Place :Belgavi, Karnataka
Date : 25.12.2025

SECTION 1: INVITATION FOR TENDERS (IFT)

Government of Karnataka

Commissioner, Chamrajanagra-Ramasamudra Urban Development Authority

CHAMARAJANAGARA-571313

NIT No: CHUDA/Comm /AE-1/Tender-03/2025-26 **Dated:18.12.2025**

The Commissioner, Chamrajanagra-Ramasamudra Urban Development Authority, Chamrajanagara invites tenders from eligible tenderers in Two cover system for the construction of work detailed in the table through KPPP portal of the Government of Karnataka viz. http// kppp.karnataka.gov.in). The tenderers are advised to note the Minimum qualification criteria specified in clause-3 of the Instructions to Tenderers to qualify for award of the contract

TABLE

SL. NO.	Name of work	Form No.	Approximate value of work (In Lakhs).	Earnest money deposit (Rs).	Period of completion excluding Monsoon season	Contractor eligibility	Category
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
01	IMPROVEMENTS TO GOVT KATTE AT GALIPURA VILLAGE SURVEY NO-60 01 ACRE - 17 GUNTAS IN CHAMARAJANAGARA TOWN.	K/W-3	68,45,000 (Including GST)	1,36,900-00 (Including GST)	4 months (Including rainy season)	Class-II and above KPWD Civil Contractor	General

Last Date for Submission of bids in E-portal-12-01-2026 upto 17.30 pm
Date of Opening of Technical bid -13-01-2026 17.30 pm
Date of Opening of Financial bid-14-01-2026 17.30 pm
Tender must be submitted along with Site inspection report inspected with concerned officers on 02.01.2026

sa/ Chairman
Chamrajanagra-Ramasamudra
Urban Development Authority

Sa-
Commissioner
Chamrajanagra-Ramasamudra Urban Development Authority

ಸಂ/ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಚಾ.ನಗರ/585/2025-26

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನಗರ ನೀರು ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮತ್ತು ಒಳಚರಂಡಿ ಮಂಡಳಿ

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಕನನೀಸ ಮತ್ತು ಒಚ ಮಂಡಳಿ, ವಿಭಾಗ ಜಲಭವನ
1ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಪಿ–4,10ನೇ ಮುಖ್ಯ ರಸ್ತೆ,3ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಸರಸ್ವತಿಪುರಂ, ಮೈಸೂರು–560009
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:0821–2543552, ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: **kwbmysdiv@gmail.com**

ಪತ್ರ ಸಂ: ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಕಜಮಂ/ಕಾಅ/ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ/ತಾಸ/ಸಅ–1/2595/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23.12.2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

1. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ವಿವರ: **Jai-Hi Amrut** ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಂಜನಗೂಡು ನಗರದ ಗೋಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಹತ್ತಿರವಿರುವ 8 ಎಂ.ಎಲ್.ಡಿ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ಮಲಿನ ನೀರು ಶುದ್ಧೀಕರಣ ಘಟಕದಿಂದ ಸಂಸ್ಕರಿಸಿದ ನೀರನ್ನು ಚಿನ್ನದಗುಡಿ ಹುಂಡಿ ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಕೃಷಿ ಜಮೀನುಗಳಿಗೆ ಮರುಬಳಕೆ ಮಾಡಲು 25 ಹೆಚ್.ಪಿ / ಅವಶ್ಯಕ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ಸಬ್‌ಮರ್ಸಿಬಲ್ ಪಂಪ್‌ಸೆಟ್ ಅನ್ನು ಅಳವಡಿಸುವುದು, 115 ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ / 150 ಹೆಚ್.ಪಿ ಡಿಜಿಟಲ್ ಸಾಫ್ಟ್ ಸ್ಟಾಟರ್ ಗಳನ್ನು ಅಳವಡಿಸುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಗೂಡ್ಲು ನದಿಯ ಹತ್ತಿರವಿರುವ ವೆಟ್‌ವೆಲ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಲಿ ಅಳವಡಿಸಿರುವ ಪ್ಯಾನಲ್ ಬೋರ್ಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ರಿಪೇರಿ ಮಾಡುವುದು ಮತ್ತು 60.5 ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ ಸೋಲಾರ್ ಪವರ್ ಸಿಸ್ಟಮ್ ಅನ್ನು ಅಳವಡಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅನ್ನು ರೂ.60,97,062.00 (ಜಿ.ಎಸ್.ಟಿ ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ) ಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : **KUWSDB/2025–26/OW/WORK_INDENT398/CALL–4** ರಲ್ಲಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪ್ರೂಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ **ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸುವುದು
2. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ವಿವರ: 2025–26 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್.ಸಿ.ಪಿ ಅನುದಾನದಡಿ ಕೊಳ್ಳೇಗಾಲ ನಗರದ ವಾರ್ಡ್ ನಂ.30 ರಲ್ಲಿ ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಹೋಗಿರುವ ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳಿಗೆ ಒಳಚರಂಡಿ ಕೊಳವೆ ಮಾರ್ಗ ಮತ್ತು ಔಟ್‌ಫಾಲ್ ಪೈಪ್ ಲೈನ್ ಅನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಿ, ಅಳವಡಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅನ್ನು ರೂ.20,99,535/– (ಜಿ.ಎಸ್.ಟಿ ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ) ಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ :**KUWSDB/2025-26/WS/WORK_INDENT443/CALL-2** ರಲ್ಲಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪ್ರೂಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/–
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು,

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಮೈಸೂರು/ಶಿರಡಿ ಸಾಯಿ/1429/2025–26

HFS | Hiranandani Financial Services

HIRANANDANI FINANCIAL SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED

Regd. Office: 514, Dalamal Towers, 211 Free Press Journal Marg, Nariman Point, Mumbai- 400021.
Corporate Office: 9th Floor, Sigma Towers, Hiranandani Business Park, Technology Street, Powai, Mumbai - 400076.
Email: wecare@hfs.in • **Website:** www.hfs.in • **Tel. No.:** 022-25763623 • **CIN No.:** U65999MH2017PTC291060

DEMAND NOTICE

UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 (“ the Act”) AND THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002 (“ the Rules”)

The undersigned being the **Authorized Officer of Hiranandani Financial Services Pvt. Ltd.** (herinafter referred to as “ **HFS**”) under the Act and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the Act read with Rule 3 issued Demand Notice(s) under Section 13(2) of the Act, calling upon the following borrower(s) to repay the amount mentioned in the respective notice(s) **within 60 days** from the date of receipt of the said notice. The undersigned reasonably believes that borrower(s) is / are avoiding the service of the Demand Notice(s), therefore the service of notice is being effected by affixation and publication as per Rules. The contents of Demand Notice(s) are extracted herein below:

Loan Account No. & Name of the Borrower / Co-Borrowers / Address	Dt. of Demand Notice U/s. 13(2) & Total O/s.	Description of Secured Assets / Mortgage Property
LAN : 4375078101018468 & 4375078101034389 **Customer ID 58855 & 58854** **1. Fastline Interiors** (Borrower) **2. M Vijay** (Borrower) **3. Sulochana Y** (Co-Borrower) **4. Madhavi S** (Co-Borrower) **Add For Sr. No. 1:** Sy. No. 25, Srinivasapura Village, Belahalli Main Road, Yelahanka, Bangalore Urban District, Karnataka, 560064. **Also At For Sr. No. 2:** No 45 Fastline Interiors Srinivasapura Kogilu Yelahanka Kannur Road, Bangalore Urban District, Karnataka, 560064. **Also At For Sr. No. 3:** No. 45B Near Bbmp Office Agrahara Layout, Bangalore North, Bangalore Urban District, Karnataka, 560064. **Also At For Sr. No. 4:** No 150292a 4th Main 17th Cross Maruthi Nagar, Bangalore North, Po Yelahanka Dist Bengaluru, Bangalore Urban District, Karnataka - 560064.	**Dated : 22.12.2025** **For LAN : 4375078101018468 & 4375078101034389** **Rs. 46,08,948/-** (Rupees Forty-Six Lakhs Eight Thousand Nine Hundred & Forty-Eight Only) & **NPA DATE : 13.11.2025**	All that part and parcel of the property bearing No. 723 in Sy No. 25, Katha No. 126/723/25, Ward No. 05, situated at Agrahara Village, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, now within the limits of BBMP and Measuring East to West 40 Ft and North to South 30 Ft and **Bounded on:- East By:-** Road, **West By:-** Site No. 714, **North By:-** Site No. 724, **South By:-** Site No. 722, Together with anything attached to the earth or permanently fastened to anything attached to the earth with all present and future structures thereon.
LAN :4375078101020885 **Customer ID 65064** **1. YMS Enterprises** (Borrower) **2. Shanthakumar M** (Co-Borrower) **3. Yallamma M** (Co-Borrower) **Add For Sr. No. 1:** 1st Cross Bilekahalli Near Veerabhadra Swamy Temple, Bangalore, Bangalore Urban District, Karnataka - 560076. **Also At For Sr. No. 2 & 3:** No. 29/ 2 1st Cross Old Post Office, Veerabhadrappa Temple, Bilehahalli Bangalore, Bangalore Urban District, Karnataka - 560076.	**Dated : 22.12.2025** **For LAN : 4375078101020885** **Rs. 49,34,130/-** (Rupees Forty-Nine Lakh Thirty-Four Thousand One Hundred & Thirty Only) & **NPA DATE : 13.11.2025**	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing BBMP Khatha No. 299/222/1, Katha No. 383 / 376 / 299 / 222 / 01 / 600 / 01 Situated at Billekahalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, presently comes under the limits of BBMP Ward No. 188-Billekahalli, measuring East to West 30 ft. and North to South 30 ft. Total 900 ft. and **Bounded on:- East by:** Property belongs to H.A.L Annaiah's Property, **West by:** Property belongs to Gullappa's and Chinnappa, **North by:-** Road, **South by: -** Venkatappa's Property, Together with anything attached to the earth or permanently fastened to anything attached to the earth with all present and future structures thereon.

The borrower(s) are hereby advised to comply with the Demand Notice(s) and to pay the demand amount mentioned therein and herein above within 60 days from the date of this publication together with applicable interest, additional interest, bounce charges, cost and expenses till the date of realization of payment. The borrower(s) may note that HFS is a secured creditor and the loan facility availed by the Borrower(s) is a secured debt against the immovable property / properties being the secured asset(s) mortgaged by the borrower(s). In the event borrower(s) are failed to discharge their liabilities in full within the stipulated time, HFS shall be entitled to exercise all the rights under section 13(4) of the Act to take possession of the secured assets(s) including but not limited to transfer the same by way of sale or by invoking any other remedy available under the Act and the Rules thereunder and realize payment. HFS is also empowered to ATTACH AND / OR SEAL the secured assets(s) before enforcing the right to sale or transfer. Subsequent to the Sale of the secured assets(s), HFS also has a right to initiate separate legal proceedings to recover the balance dues, in case the value of the mortgaged properties is insufficient to cover the dues payable to the HFS. This remedy is in addition and independent of all the other remedies available to HFS under any other law. The attention of the borrower(s) is invited to Section 13(8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets and further to Section 13(13) of the Act, whereby the borrower(s) are restrained / prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the secured asset(s) or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of business) any of the secured asset(s), without prior written consent of HFS and non-compliance with the above is an offence punishable under Section 29 of the said Act. The copy of the Demand Notice is available with the undersigned and the borrower(s) may, if they so desire, can collect the same from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours.

Sd/-
Authorised Officer,
Hiranandani Financial Services Private Limited

Place : Bangalore , Karnataka
Date : 25.12.2025

QUICK READ

Micro-Observers Training Starts for Bengal Electoral Rolls

Kolkata

Training for about 4,600 micro-observers for West Bengal's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls began on Wednesday at Nazrul Manch. The chief electoral officer (CEO) is supervising the programme. Government officers appointed as micro-observers will monitor Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) and Assistant EROs during hearings to ensure transparency. Their duties include verifying voter documents, checking discrepancies, and performing statistical analysis. Each observer will receive a one-time honorarium of Rs 30,000 for their role in the revision process.

Experts Advise Caution After Fish Die Temple Ponds

Anantnag

An expert team from the Department of Fisheries inspected the Martand Sun Temple on Wednesday after multiple fish deaths in its ponds. Tests revealed water quality issues and bacterial infestation, causing stress and opportunistic pathogens in the fish, said Aadil Husein from the fisheries faculty. Experts advised periodic pond cleaning and feeding fish with standardised nutrients to maintain health. Ashok Sidha, temple president, urged the public not to feed fish without approval, as unregulated feeding could worsen the situation.

Bajrang Dal Leader Held for Vandalising Shrine

Fatehpur

A Bajrang Dal leader, Narendra Hindu, was detained on Wednesday for allegedly vandalising an old mazar in Mawai village, Fatehpur. Police said he and a group of workers damaged the decades-old shrine with hammers and sticks on Tuesday evening. A video of the incident circulated on social media, showing warnings and references to Bangladesh, later deleted.

PM Modi Backs VB-G RAM G Act Rural Scheme

Modi backs VB-G RAM G Act, 2025, replacing MGNREGA to boost rural employment, productivity, and agricultural stability

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday strongly endorsed the VB-G RAM G Act, 2025, saying it links income support, asset creation, and agricultural stability as an ongoing process rather than separate priorities. The PMO shared an article by Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on X, explaining the Act replaces MGNREGA and focuses on long-term rural productivity. Modi highlighted that the legislation followed extensive consultations with states, technical workshops, and multi-stakeholder discussions.

Chouhan criticised the previous Congress-led UPA government, saying MGNREGA failed to deliver meaningful benefits and was marred by corruption. He said the new Act aims to correct these lapses and strengthen rural employment and social security.

The VB-G RAM G Act increases guaranteed wage employment for rural households from 100 to 125 days per financial year for adult members willing to perform unskilled manual work. Section 22 of the Act revises fund-sharing, setting a 60:40 ratio between Centre and states, with a 90:10 share for Northeastern, Himalayan states, and Union Territories including Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, and Jammu & Kashmir.

Section 6 allows states to regulate employment during up to 60 days of peak agricultural seasons such as sowing and harvesting. The government said these measures aim to ensure rural productivity, enhance social security, and maintain continuity between income support and agricultural development.

Opposition parties, including the DMK-led alliance, have protested in Chennai, alleging that the Act undermines federalism and dilutes the employment guarantee scheme's original spirit. Despite the political pushback, the government maintains the legislation strengthens rural livelihoods and long-term agricultural growth while addressing previous shortcomings under MGNREGA.

Kerala BJP Demands CBI Probe Over Sabarimala Gold

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala BJP president Rajeev Chandrasekhar on Tuesday demanded a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) inquiry into the alleged irregularities at the Sabarimala temple, calling them a "grave act of sacrilege." Addressing the issue on X, he said the developments have caused him deep distress as an Ayyappa devotee and claimed the alleged looting goes far beyond the reported 4.5 kg of gold. Chandrasekhar alleged that under the LDF-appointed Devaswom Board, four Panchaloha idols were removed from the temple and sold to international criminal networks. He also claimed that parts of the sacred "pathinettam padi" (18 steps), replaced during the UDF regime in 2015, were tampered with and looted later.

Terming the incidents "deeply disturbing," the BJP leader accused both the Congress-led UDF and CPI(M)-led LDF of a larger political conspiracy. He said arresting a few individuals would not be enough to uncover the full truth, and that a Special Investigation Team (SIT) alone cannot ensure justice.

Rahul Gandhi condemns Kuldeep Sengar's bail, calls Unnao case shameful

Rahul Gandhi Condemns Kuldeep Sengar Bail Decision

NEW DELHI

Congress leader and Lok Sabha Opposition Leader Rahul Gandhi strongly criticised the Delhi High Court's decision to grant bail to former MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar in the 2017 Unnao rape case. Speaking on X, he called the move "disappointing and shameful" and questioned why the survivor continues to face fear and harassment. Gandhi said such actions indicate not only institutional failure but also a moral decline, warning that India risks becoming "a dead society" alongside a "dead economy." He emphasised that survivors deserve respect, safety, and justice, and criticised the treatment of victims as criminals. Gandhi asked whether raising a voice for justice should be punished, highlighting the erosion of public faith in the justice system due to bail for convicted rapists. The survivor's mother alleged that she and her daughters were forcibly separated while being transported in a CRPF vehicle, expressing fears for their safety. She demanded the cancellation of Sengar's bail and warned of extreme consequences if justice is not ensured.

The Delhi High Court had suspended Sengar's life sentence in the minor's rape case, conditional on furnishing a Rs 15 lakh bail bond. However, he remains in custody over the custodial death of the victim's father, for which he was awarded a 10-year sentence. The court directed that Sengar avoid the victim's residence and not contact her family. Senior advocates for Sengar argued he is not a public servant and raised disputes over the victim's age, citing medical reports. The case continues amid public outrage and political condemnation over the handling of justice for the survivor.

Govt to Launch Bharat Taxi Service Soon

PANCHKULA

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday announced that the government will soon introduce the 'Bharat Taxi' service, a new initiative that will directly share profits with drivers. Speaking at the Sahkari Sammelan in Panchkula, Shah said the project aims to improve customer convenience while increasing earnings for drivers, promoting financial security and better livelihoods for them.

Highlighting Haryana's contributions, Shah praised the state's role in ensuring food security, boosting dairy production, and achieving sporting excellence. He also lauded both Haryana and Punjab for making India self-reliant in food grain production. Shah noted that Haryana has a high per capita contribution of soldiers to the armed forces and Central Armed Police Forces, reflecting the state's dedication to national security.

Shah emphasised that integrating livestock rearing, agriculture, and cooperative systems can drive economic growth and prosperity.

Amit Shah announced the upcoming 'Bharat Taxi' service, which will share profits with drivers and boost customer convenience while supporting cooperative development

He pointed out that government spending under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has increased substantially, with the agricultural budget rising from Rs 22,000 crore in 2014 to Rs 1.27 lakh crore, and the rural development budget increasing from Rs 80,000 crore to Rs 1.87 lakh crore.

The 'Bharat Taxi' initiative is designed to financially benefit drivers while improving customer services, reflecting the government's focus on cooperative models and integrated rural development. Shah underlined that such steps will strengthen citizens' livelihoods, create new economic opportunities, and support overall progress across multiple sectors of the economy. The project marks a significant effort to merge innovation, cooperation, and rural empowerment for sustainable development.

NIA Hosts Anti-Terror Conference On Strengthened Prosecution

NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) will begin its two-day 'Anti-Terror Conference' on December 26 in New Delhi, focusing on prosecution-led counter-terrorism efforts and evolving legal frameworks governing terror investigations. Union Home Minister Amit Shah will inaugurate the event, which will bring together 39 heads of state police, central police organisations, and over 150 delegates from 29 states and Union Territories, along with 31 central organisations.

The conference aims to review progress on last year's recommendations, which emphasised stronger collaboration between central and state agencies, standardised strategies to counter terrorism, and holistic approaches spanning cybercrime, financial terrorism, and terror ecosystems.

The deliberations will also focus on sharing operational experiences, best practices, and emerging technologies to tackle terror networks, along with mechanisms for improved international legal cooperation.

Forensic Science: Strengthening Justice in a Changing India

BY DR. S. C. SHARMA

Forensic Science has become a vital pillar of modern justice systems by bringing scientific accuracy, objectivity, and reliability to criminal and civil investigations. As crime patterns grow more complex and technology-driven, forensic science plays an essential role in ensuring fair investigation and effective delivery of justice.

India has witnessed a steady rise in sophisticated crimes, particularly cybercrime, financial fraud, and organized criminal activities. NCRB trends indicate cybercrime growth rates of over 20–25% annually. Traditional investigative methods alone are no longer sufficient. Courts increasingly depend on forensic evidence such as DNA profiling, digital forensics, toxicology, and forensic documentation, making the availability of skilled forensic professionals crucial for improving conviction rates and judicial credibility.

Recognizing this need, the Government of India has strengthened forensic infrastructure through expansion of Central and State Forensic Science Laboratories, modernization of investigative processes, and the establishment of the National Forensic Sciences University. Recent criminal justice reforms emphasize mandatory use of scientific evidence and defined forensic timelines, significantly increasing demand for trained forensic manpower—an area where India currently faces a major shortage.

Beyond investigations, forensic science is a fast-growing research domain, with opportunities in DNA databanking, cyber forensics, toxicology, forensic psychology, and document examination. International relevance further enhances career mobility, as forensic expertise is critical to counter-terrorism, disaster victim identification, and cross-border crime control.

In this context, MES College of Arts, Science & Commerce will launch a Forensic Science programme from the academic year 2026–27. Guided by Dr. Adarsha, Principal, and Dr. S. A. Hariprasad, CEO of MES, the programme aims to provide strong scientific grounding, practical training, ethical orientation, and global best practices.

This initiative prepares students for high-demand careers in forensic laboratories, law enforcement, cybercrime units, research institutions, and private forensic services—offering a purposeful career that contributes directly to justice, security, and society.

Unnao Rape Survivor To Challenge Sengar Bail Decision

UNNAO

The 2017 Unnao rape survivor on Wednesday announced she will approach the Supreme Court against the Delhi High Court's decision to suspend Kuldeep Singh Sengar's jail term. The expelled BJP leader is serving life imprisonment for the rape case. The HC had granted bail pending the disposal of his appeal against the conviction, while directing that he stay at least 5 km away from the victim's residence and refrain from threatening her or her mother. Violation of these conditions would lead to automatic cancellation of bail.

VISVESVARAYA TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
"Jnana Sangama" Belagavi - 590018, Karnataka State

No: VTU/BGM/RE/2025-26 /IFT No. 114 /5024 Date: 24-12-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
Two Cover System (KPP Portal Only) 2nd Call

The e-Tender is invited induplicate from eligible tenderers, registered Firm, by the Registrar, Visvesvaraya Technological University, "Jnana Sangama", Belagavi-18, under standard tender document procedure KW format for the work of **Supplying, installing, testing and commissioning of 910 KVA DG set with allied electrical works at VTU, "Jnana Sangama", Belagavi amounting to Rs.99,68,742/- (Excluding GST) 2nd Call.** Other details log on to website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on **24-12-2025**.

Sd/- Registrar
VTU, Belagavi

DIPR/Belagavi/1535/Adverto/2025-26

ALTUM CREDO HOME FINANCE PRIVATE LTD
Regd. Office: Floor No. 7, Kalpataru Infinia, Wakdewadi, Shivajinagar, Pune - 411005. Maharashtra (India)

APPENDIX IV **POSSESSION NOTICE** (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

The undersigned being the authorized officer of Altum Credo Home Finance Pvt. Ltd., (ACHFL), Under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 ("SARFAESI Act, 2002") and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 ("Enforcement Rules"). Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorized Officer of the company to the Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) (collectively referred to as the "Borrowers") mention herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to Borrowers and the public in general that the under signed has taken symbolic / physical possession of the property described herein below in supersize of powers conferred upon him under Sub-section(4)of Section 13 of the said act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to prevision of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in receipt of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby caution not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ACHFL for an amount mention herein under with the interest thereon.

Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) Loan A/c No.
1. Nagendra B (Borrower) **2. Javaramma N** (Co-Borrower) **Lan No: S118202000074**

Description of Secured Asset
All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No. 232/1, G.L. Asset No. 152200300101220234, situated at Sathi Grama, Lalandevanahalli Grama Panchayat, the property coming under the limits of K.R. Nagar Taluk, Mysore District, measuring East to West: 12.192 meters and North to South: 7.62 meters, and **Bounded on: East:** Property of Government Gramatana, **West:** Property of Borisiddanayaka, **South:** Property of Borisiddanayaka, **North:** Road.

Date of Demand Notice and Amount
22.08.2025 / Rs. 5,53,824/- (Rupees Five Lakh Fifty Three Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Four Only)

NPA Date - 29.07.2025 | **Date of Possession : 19.12.2025**

STATUTORY NOTICE TO BORROWERS/ CO-BORROWERS AND GUARANTORS Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) are hereby put to caution that the property may be sold at any time hereinafter by way of public auction/tenders and as such this may also be treated as a notice under Rule 6,8 & 9 of Security (interest) Enforcement Rules,2002.

Place : Mysore, Karnataka
Date : 25.12.2025
Sd/-
Authorized Officer
Altum Credo Home Finance Pvt. Ltd. (ACHFL)

ALTUM CREDO HOME FINANCE PRIVATE LTD
Regd. Office: Floor No. 7, Kalpataru Infinia, Wakdewadi, Shivajinagar, Pune - 411005. Maharashtra (India)

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Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) Loan A/c No.
1. Mahanthesh K H (Borrower) **2. Manjamma** (Co-Borrower) **Lan No: 1192040100042**

Description of Secured Asset
All that piece and parcel of property No. 484/63, E Swathu No. 151200201800300231, measuring 9.144 X 9.144 Mtrs. i.e. 83.61 Sq. Mtrs., situated at Kalapanahalli Village, Bethur Gram Panchayath, Davangere and **Bounded on: East:** House of K. G. Shivakumar, **West:** Conservancy Sewage and Kana of K. M. Basappa, **North:** House of Shanthamma, **South:** Road.

Date of Demand Notice and Amount
13.05.2025 / Rs. 7,95,102/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Ninety Five Thousand One Hundred And Two Only)

NPA Date - 01.05.2025 | **Date of Possession : 19.12.2025**

STATUTORY NOTICE TO BORROWERS/ CO-BORROWERS AND GUARANTORS Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) are hereby put to caution that the property may be sold at any time hereinafter by way of public auction/tenders and as such this may also be treated as a notice under Rule 6,8 & 9 of Security (interest) Enforcement Rules,2002.

Place : Davangere, Karnataka
Date : 25.12.2025
Sd/-
Authorized Officer
Altum Credo Home Finance Pvt. Ltd. (ACHFL)

Government of Karnataka
Office of the Executive Engineer
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, Mysore – 570023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION NO.18/ 2025-26/ DATED: 08-12-2025 (Two Cover System)

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka the Executive Engineer, Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, Mysore invites tender in co-ordination with e-procurement portal platform, Bangalore. Tender format as per **KW-4** through e-procurement under the Head of Account **2024-25 Year 5054 Rain Damage** for Mysore & Nanjangud Taluk. Date of application submission for tender document and submission of filled tender through online **Date: 8-12-2025 to 05-01-2026 upto 16.00 hours.** Pre-bid Meeting in Office **Date: 29-12-2025 at 16.00 Hours**. The date of opening of technical bid of the tender **Date: 06-01-2025 after 17.00 hours**. After the approval of Technical bid the Financial Bid will be opened. Tender Form Fee: As per e-procurement Details as belows.

Sl. No	Name of work	Estimate Cost (Rs.in Lakhs)	Approximate Value of work (Rs. in lakhs)	Earnest Money Deposit (in Rs)
1	Construction of CC drain and CC road in village limits of Ilvala, Erapanakopplu, Ratnahalli, Dhadadhakallahalli, Yachegowdanahalli in between the road from Badregowdanakopplu village to Hoskote village in Mysuru Taluk of Mysuru District. (RDPR/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT21386)	**275.00**	**231.15**	**3,47,000.00**
2	Construction of CC drain and CC road in village limits of Siddhalingapura, Hale kesare, Kamanakere Hundi in between the road from Naganahalli village to Alenahalli village in Mysuru Taluk of Mysuru District. (RDPR/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT21390)	300.00	**252.31**	**3,78,500.00**
3	Construction of CC drain and CC road in village limits of Kellahalli, Jayapura, Maavinahalli, Gopalapura, Mulluru, Devagahalli, Kotehundi, Ballahalli, Madhahalli, Nuggahalli, Shettynayakanahalli in between the road from Doora village to D.M.G Halli in Mysuru Taluk of Mysuru District. (RDPR/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT21388)	**425.00**	**358.16**	**5,37,500.00**
4	Construction of CC drain, CC road and Asphalt road to Chandikeshwara Temple of Thagaduru village and in village limits of Alaganchi, Kiragunda, Biligere, Haropura, Bilugali, Hadinarumole, Immavuhundi, K S Hundi, Bidaragudu and Ahalya in between the road from Thagaduru village to Ahalya village in Nanjangudu Taluk of Mysuru District. (RDPR/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT21391)	**455.00**	**382.08**	**5,75,500.00**

Contractor Eligibility: Class – II& above

For more details visit website: htpp://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in or contact the Executive Engineer, Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, Mysore (Ph: 0821-2560853) during office hours. **AE Phone No.** 8123267587

Sd/- Executive Engineer, PRED Division, Mysore

DIPR/DDMYS/1420/KSMCA/808/2025-26

QUICK READ

Bomb Blast Damages Railway Tracks

Quetta

A bomb blast damaged a section of railway track near Dera Murad Jamali in Pakistan's Balochistan, forcing suspension of train services. Police said an improvised explosive device planted on the main track exploded before the Jaffar Express, travelling from Peshawar to Quetta, reached the spot. Train movement between Quetta and other areas was halted. Security forces and bomb disposal teams searched the area. Earlier, the Jaffar Express faced an armed attack in November, though no casualties were reported.

South Korea Sees Continued Rise In Births

Seoul

South Korea recorded a rise in childbirths for the 16th straight month in October, though growth slowed. Government data showed 21,958 babies were born during the month, a 2.5 per cent increase from last year. Births have risen continuously since July 2024. The fertility rate edged up to 0.81, with most births among women aged 30–34. Marriages also increased slightly, while deaths remained higher than births, causing a population decline.

Indian-Origin Rights Lawyer M Ravi Found Dead

Lawyer Eugene Thuraisingam, who once represented him, said Ravi always fought hard for what he believed in and deeply cared for his clients

SINGAPORE

Indian-origin former lawyer and human rights activist M Ravi was found dead in Singapore on December 24. He was 56 years old. Police said investigations have begun into an unnatural death to determine the circumstances surrounding the incident.

Ravi, whose full name was Ravi Madasamy, practised law for more than 25 years and was known for handling high-profile and controversial cases, including representing Malaysians on death row.

He strongly campaigned against the death penalty and openly supported LGBTQ rights in Singapore. Diagnosed with bipolar disorder

in 2006, Ravi often drew attention for both his activism and courtroom conduct.

Lawyer Eugene Thuraisingam, who once represented him, said Ravi always fought hard for what he believed. He added that Ravi was devoted to pro bono work and deeply cared for his clients.

Born in 1969, Ravi studied at the National University of Singapore and Cardiff University and was called to the Bar in 1996. He started his own firm, M Ravi Law, in 2019.

In 2023, the International Bar Association honoured him for outstanding contributions to human rights advocacy, praising his dedication to ending capital punishment and decriminalising homosexuality.

Singapore law allows the death penalty for 33 offences, including murder, terrorism, kidnapping, firearms use and serious drug trafficking crimes.

Ravi also faced legal troubles, including fines, suspension from practice and a jail term in 2024. Despite this, he remained active in public debate, politics and writing.

Tributes poured in remembering him as fearless, passionate and committed to justice within Singapore's legal community.

> In 2023, the International Bar Association honoured him for human rights advocacy, praising his efforts to end capital punishment, while Singapore law continues allowing the death penalty for 33 serious offences.

Court Extends Imran Khan Bushra Bibi Bail

ISLAMABAD

A Pakistan court has extended interim bail for former Prime Minister Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi in several cases linked to unrest

A court extended the interim bail of PTI founder Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi in cases related to the May 9 violence and other matters. The order was passed by Additional District and Sessions Judge Muhammad Afzal Majoka while hearing pre-arrest bail pleas. Advocate Shamsa Kayani appeared on behalf of the couple. However, arguments could not be taken up as Imran Khan did not appear before the court.

In view of his absence, the judge adjourned the proceedings and extended the interim bail until January 27. The court directed that Imran Khan must appear on the next date either in person or through a video link. Several criminal cases have been registered against the former prime minister, including those linked to the May 9 incidents, attempted murder allegations and the submission of alleged fake receipts.

A separate case over the alleged submission of fake receipts related to Toshakhana gifts has also been filed against Bushra Bibi. In another hearing, Additional District and Sessions Judge Chaudhry Amir Zia extended her interim bail in a separate pre-arrest bail plea and fixed January 27 for the next hearing. That case was registered at Ramna police station under the Peaceful Assembly and Public Order Act.

East Turkistan Exile Group Urges Action Against China Globally

WASHINGTON

The East Turkistan Government in Exile marked the 76th anniversary of what it called the illegal occupation of East Turkistan, known to China as Xinjiang, by the People's Republic of China. The group renewed its demand for international intervention to stop alleged atrocities and restore independence.

It said the occupation began in 1949, just days after the founding of the People's Republic of China, when Chinese Communist forces entered the region. To mark the anniversary, ETGE and the East Turkistan National Movement held a protest outside the White House on December 21, 2025. Participants honoured victims of decades of rule and urged strong steps against Beijing.

ETGE Foreign Minister Salih Hudayar said China's actions against Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, and other Turkic peoples met the legal definition of genocide. He said millions had faced imprisonment, forced labour, sterilisation, and death since 1949. Hudayar called this a state-led genocide and said independence was the only solution.

He urged the United States and other countries to recognise East Turkistan as occupied under international law. He also sought sanctions on Chinese officials and companies, bans on forced-labour imports, and support in global courts.

ETGE President Mamtimin Ala warned that China's control threatened global stability. He said inaction would encourage expansion and weaken freedom. ETGE said it represents East Turkistan people under Chinese administration and will continue pressing governments to act decisively on the issue.

Bangladesh Prepares For Tarique Rahman Return After Years Abroad

DHAKA

Bangladesh Nationalist Party leaders have begun large-scale preparations for the return of Acting Chairman Tarique Rahman after 17 years in exile in London. Rahman, son of former President Ziaur Rahman and former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia, is scheduled to arrive in Dhaka on December 25, party officials said.

The BNP plans to give him a grand public welcome. A large stage is being built on a 300-foot-wide road in Purbachal on the outskirts of the capital. Party leaders said Rahman will be formally greeted there by senior leaders and supporters. BNP leaders claimed nearly two million people may attend the event, with activists already reaching Dhaka from different districts.

To manage the expected crowds, authorities imposed a 24-hour restriction at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport. The restriction will remain from 6 pm on December 24 to 6 pm on December 25. Only passengers with valid tickets and passports will be allowed inside the airport, while visitors will be barred. Officials said the move is meant to ensure security and smooth operations.

Rahman and his entourage are expected to arrive from London on a Biman Bangladesh Airlines flight on Wednesday morning. Airlines advised passengers to reach the airport early.

BNP Standing Committee member Salahuddin Ahmed said Rahman would go directly to Evercare Hospital after landing to meet his mother Khaleda Zia, who has been admitted there for several weeks. Rahman will stay at a Gulshan residence, while party offices have been arranged.

BUSINESS

FTAs Expected To Boost Indian Professional Services Globally

Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal said services trade significantly contributes to India's economy alongside merchandise exports

NEW DELHI

Legally binding commitments on professional services under free trade agreements (FTAs) are set to open global markets for Indian professionals, officials said on Wednesday. Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal highlighted the need for better coordination among stakeholders, domestic reforms, and adoption of global best practices to strengthen India's professional services sector.

Addressing the 'Chintan Shivir on Professional Services,' Agrawal said services trade significantly contributes to India's economy alongside merchandise exports. He emphasised that India's demographic advantage offers huge potential to meet growing international demand, provided professionals are trained with upgraded skills and technology knowledge. Greater openness in trade, he added, will enhance the country's economic competitiveness.

The Chintan Shivir offered professional bodies a platform to exchange ideas on global best practices and align domestic regulations with emerging trends, including artificial intelligence and technological developments. The ICAI playbook was praised for its market-oriented framework, international directorate, and AI-focused certification courses. The Indian Nursing Council's efforts to improve access for Indian nurses in global markets were also acknowledged.

Discussions included Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs), focusing on challenges, better utilisation, and their role in expanding digitally delivered services. Participants also explored how FTAs can support digital delivery of professional services, professional mobility, and alignment of domestic qualification rules with international standards. Agrawal encouraged professional bodies to actively participate in global forums for knowledge sharing and collaborations. With reforms, skill upgrades, and strategic international agreements, India aims to strengthen its position as a global hub for professional services and unlock greater export opportunities across sectors.

India's Textiles Sector Sees Surge In Investment, Exports

NEW DELHI

India's textiles sector recorded a strong surge in investment and exports in 2025, supported by government incentive schemes, GST cuts, and reforms aimed at boosting ease of doing business. The Ministry of Textiles announced seven PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) Parks in Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Maharashtra, with a total outlay of ₹4,445 crore for seven years. Investment MoUs worth over ₹27,434 crore have been signed, and infrastructure work of ₹2,590.99 crore has begun. The National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM), with a budget of ₹1,480 crore, focuses on research, market development, education, and export promotion, and has been extended till March 2026.

Handloom and craft sector gained from 300+ marketing events, producer companies, craft villages, MUDRA, and welfare schemes

Textile exports, including handicrafts, reached $37.8 billion in 2024–25, growing 5% year-on-year and generating a trade surplus of $28.2 billion. Traditional markets such as the US, EU, and UK accounted for 55% of exports, while emerging markets contributed 20%. Vision 2030 targets $100 billion in exports, driven by innovation, sustainability, and global trade partnerships.

QUICK READ

Government Plans Mandatory Labels For AI Content

New Delhi

The Centre will soon notify new IT rules making it mandatory to label AI-generated content. A senior MeitY official said consultations with industry stakeholders are complete and most companies support the move. Firms agree that identifying AI-made material is important for public trust. However, technology companies have asked for clear rules on what kind of AI use needs labels, seeking a difference between major AI changes and routine technical improvements. The government is reviewing suggestions and final rules are expected shortly.

Al Hind Air, FlyExpress Receive Government Nod

New Delhi

Two new airlines, Al Hind Air and FlyExpress, have received their No Objection Certificates (NOCs) from the Civil Aviation Ministry and are set to start operations. Kerala-based Al Hind Air is promoted by the alhind Group, while Uttar Pradesh's Shankh Air, which already has an NOC, may begin flights in 2026. The government aims to boost competition in India's fast-growing domestic aviation market, currently dominated by IndiGo and Air India Group, which together hold over 90% market share.

Coal India Approves Listing Of MCL, SECL Subsidiaries

MUMBAI

Shares of state-owned Coal India Ltd (CIL) rose 1% to ₹404.5 on Wednesday after the company's board approved in-principle the listing of two key subsidiaries, Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd (MCL) and South Eastern Coalfields Ltd (SECL). The board's decision follows a directive from the Ministry of Coal to list these subsidiaries in the next financial year, aiming to unlock value in high-performing PSUs and increase transparency.

The approvals will be sent to the Ministry of Coal and the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), with final listings subject to regulatory clearances. Other subsidiaries, including Bharat Coking Coal Ltd (BCCL) and the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI), may also be listed in the future. BCCL already received SEBI approval for listing in September.

SECL, based in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, is one of Coal India's most productive units, producing 167 million tonnes in 2024–25. The company operates extensive mining projects in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh and has led technological advancements, notably expanding the Gevra project, one of Asia's largest opencast coal mines.

Experts say the move will enhance corporate transparency and allow investors to directly participate in Coal India's profitable subsidiaries. The proposed listings align with the central government's broader strategy to encourage public participation in state-owned companies and strengthen governance standards in the sector.

Gold prices hit record highs globally

NEW DELHI

Gold prices soared to a record ₹1,38,676 per 10 grams in futures trade on Wednesday, while international prices crossed $4,500 per ounce amid expectations of further US Federal Reserve easing and rising geopolitical tensions. February gold futures on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) gained ₹791, or 0.57%, marking the third consecutive session of gains.

Silver futures also surged for the fourth straight day. The March 2026 contract climbed ₹4,234, or 1.93%, to reach a new peak of ₹2,23,887 per kilogram. On global markets, Comex gold futures rose $49.4, or 1.10%, to touch $4,555.1 per ounce, while silver for the same contract increased $1.61, or 2.23%, to $72.75 per ounce.

Jigar Trivedi, Senior Research Analyst at Reliance Securities, noted that safe-haven demand is rising due to geopolitical tensions and expectations of two US rate cuts in 2026 as inflation cools and employment growth moderates. The ongoing rally reflects concerns over global uncertainties and strong central bank buying.

Gold has gained around 70% this year, tracking its strongest annual rise since 1979, supported by inflows into gold-backed funds. Analysts say sustained demand and cautious investor sentiment continue to drive the metal higher, with geopolitical risks further fueling buying in both domestic and international markets.

Alpine SG Pipers Crowned Global Chess League 2025 Champions

Alpine SG Pipers claimed their maiden Global Chess League title after overpowering defending champions

MUMBAI

In a memorable finale to Season 3 of the Global Chess League (GCL), Indian Grandmasters R Praggnanandhaa and Anish Giri led Alpine SG Pipers to a historic triumph, defeating defending champions Triveni Continental Kings in the finals held in Mumbai on Sunday. The Pipers sealed the championship with commanding performances across two matches, winning 4–2 in the first and 4.5–1.5 in the second, to lift their first-ever GCL title.

The opening match saw the Pipers assert early control in a fiercely contested battle. World number-two Alireza Firouzja delivered a standout performance, outplaying Fabiano Caruana in a sharp tactical encounter that set the tone for the team. Triveni Continental Kings attempted a comeback, but the Pipers responded decisively, with Anish Giri producing a positional masterclass against Wei Yi, underlining his experience and composure on the big stage.

With momentum firmly on their side, Alpine SG Pipers entered the second match knowing that discipline and precision would be key. Rising Indian star Praggnanandhaa rose to the occasion when it mattered most, defeating Vidit Gujrathi in a crisp 35-move tactical showcase that drew admiration from fans and experts alike. His victory not only widened the gap on the scoreboard but also symbolised the growing confidence of India's young chess talents in elite global competitions.

Anish Giri emerged as the most valuable player of the finals, winning both his games with the black pieces—an achievement that highlighted his strategic depth and preparation. His calm execution under pressure proved decisive in tilting the finals firmly in the Pipers' favour.

The triumph marks a significant milestone for Alpine SG Pipers and adds another glittering chapter to the rapidly growing Global Chess League. With electrifying matches, star-studded line-ups, and a passionate audience in Mumbai, the 2025 season concluded by reinforcing chess's expanding appeal as a spectator sport in India and beyond.

India Women Outclass Sri Lanka by Seven Wickets in Second T20I

VISAKHAPATNAM

India Women produced a dominant all-round display to defeat Sri Lanka and extend their lead in Visakhapatnam.

The Indian women's cricket team continued its impressive run ahead of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup, defeating Sri Lanka by seven wickets in the second T20 International at Visakhapatnam on Monday night. With this comprehensive victory, India took a 2–0 lead in the five-match series, underlining their strong preparations and growing confidence in the shortest format of the game.

Chasing a modest target of 129 runs, India reached the finish line comfortably in just 11.5 overs, showcasing aggressive intent and clinical execution. Opening batter Shafali Verma was the star of the run chase, smashing an unbeaten 69 off just 34 deliveries. Her innings was studded with powerful strokes and fearless shot-making, leaving the Sri Lankan bowlers with little room to recover. Shafali's knock not only sealed the match decisively but also reaffirmed her role as one of India's most destructive batters in T20 cricket.

For Sri Lanka, Kawya Kavindi, Malki Madara, and Kavisha Dilhari picked up a wicket each, but their efforts were insufficient to halt India's rapid scoring rate.

Earlier, India Women won the toss and opted to bowl, a decision that paid dividends as the bowlers kept Sri Lanka under consistent pressure. Batting first, Sri Lanka managed 128 for 9 in their allotted 20 overs. Harshitha Samarawickrama top-scored for the visitors with 33 runs, anchoring the innings amid regular wickets. For India, young bowlers Vaishnavi Sharma and N. Shree Charani impressed by claiming two wickets each, maintaining tight lines and exploiting the conditions effectively.

Led by captain Harmanpreet Kaur, India is using the five-match series against Sri Lanka Women as a crucial part of their build-up to the Women's T20 World Cup. The convincing nature of the victory highlights India's balance across departments and the depth in their squad.

Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli marked their Vijay Hazare Trophy return with dominant centuries, stealing headlines nationwide

Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli Light Up Vijay Hazare Trophy

NEW DELHI

The opening day of the Vijay Hazare Trophy witnessed a blend of historic milestones and elite brilliance, as Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli stole the spotlight with commanding centuries in the latter half of the day. While the morning session was dominated by record-breaking knocks across venues, it was the return of India's modern greats that truly captivated fans and reaffirmed the stature of India's premier domestic one-day tournament.

Representing Mumbai, Rohit produced a breathtaking display against Sikkim in Jaipur. Chasing a modest target of 236, Rohit made the task look effortless, racing to a century off just 62 balls. His innings was laced with towering sixes and crisp boundaries, instantly tilting the contest in Mumbai's favour. The former India captain eventually went on to score a magnificent 155, underlining his dominance in the 50-over format.

The knock also carried significant personal milestones. Rohit's century marked his 37th in List A cricket, complementing the 33 international centuries he has scored for India. As he edges closer to the 14,000-run mark in one-day cricket, the innings further cemented his reputation as one of the most destructive batters in limited-overs history.

Not long after Rohit's fireworks, Virat Kohli announced his return to the Vijay Hazare Trophy after a 15-year hiatus in emphatic fashion. Turning out against Andhra Pradesh at the BCCI Centre of Excellence, Kohli led a challenging 299-run chase with trademark authority. Calm, composed, and clinical, he brought up his hundred in 83 balls, anchoring the innings with precision and flair.

This century was Kohli's 58th in List A cricket and his third hundred in just four innings since the South Africa series earlier this month, highlighting his rich vein of form. With his very first run of the innings, Kohli entered an elite club, becoming only the ninth player in history to cross 16,000 List A runs. Remarkably, over 14,000 of those runs have come while representing India since his debut in 2008.

Former India physio Patrick Farhart joins LSG

LUCKNOW

Former India men's team physio Patrick Farhart has joined Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) as Global Head of Science and Medicine, a franchise official told IANS on Wednesday. Besides LSG, Farhart will also join its sister franchises, the Durban Super Giants in SA20 and the Manchester Originals of The Hundred.

Patrick Farhart will join LSG and its sister franchises as their Global Head of Science and Medicine from today. His work will start from the upcoming SA20 season for the Durban franchise, an LSG official told IANS on Wednesday.

Farhat has been in the field for more than 20 years now and has also served the Sydney Sixers in the Big Bash, the Kings XI Punjab and the Mumbai Indians in the Indian Premier League, as the team's physio over the years. He has also served as Performance Director for New South Wales, Hampshire, and Australia, and has worked with major rugby and football teams in Australia. I'm happy to share that I'm starting a new position as Global Head of Medicine and Science at RPSG Sports Private Limited! wrote Farhart on his LinkedIn account.

The purpose of this role is to establish and maintain world class standards in athlete performance, health, injury prevention, injury rehabilitation, continuing professional development and scientific innovation for sports medicine and sports science staff attached to RPSG Sport teams.

SG Pipers coach Sofie Gierts praises fearless young Indian talent

RANCHI

SG Pipers Head Coach Sofie Gierts has expressed her admiration for the quality and fearlessness of the young Indian players in her squad, describing their natural ability and mindset as a major positive in the team's early preparations ahead of the Hockey India League 2025–26, scheduled from December 28, 2025, to January 10, 2026. Reflecting on the first few days of training, Sofie highlighted the confidence and instinctive play of rising talents such as Ishika and Sunelita Toppo, noting how quickly they have stood out with their expressive style on the field.

Sofie said the players play without fear. The technique is there, the instincts are there, and most importantly, they are not afraid to try things. That is something very special.

A former Belgian international who represented her country for more than a decade and one of the few women to have coached a men's team at the elite level, Sofie believes Indian players bring a distinct identity to the game.

She explained that there is a spontaneity and creativity in their hockey. You don't want to take that away. You want to add structure around it so they can repeat those actions consistently at the highest level.

While the immediate focus remains on building collective understanding within the group, Sofie is clear about the long-term potential she sees. She added that if you give these players the right environment, the right support, and time, they can go very far.

As preparations continue, the SG Pipers coaching staff is working to blend youthful energy with international experience.

Bihar captain fastest Indian batter to score List A century

RANCHI

Bihar captain Sakibul Gani became the fastest Indian to score a List A century in just 32 balls in the Plate Group opener against Arunachal Pradesh in the Vijay Hazare Trophy at JSCA Oval Ground on Wednesday. Gani finished not out with 128 off 40 balls, just ahead of Jharkhand wicketkeeper-batter Ishan Kishan, who on the same day scored a 33-ball century against Karnataka in the same tournament. Gani's record-breaking century included 10 fours and 12 sixes.

The top two fastest List A centuries by Indians have all been recorded on the same day at two different venues, Ahmedabad and Ranchi, on the opening day of the Vijay Hazare Trophy 2025-25.

The world record for the fastest century in List A cricket belongs to Australian batter Jake Fraser-McGurk. The former Delhi Capitals player reached the 100-run mark in just 29 balls for South Australia against Tasmania in Adelaide on October 8, 2023. Teen prodigy Suryavanshi led the charge of Bihar's batting with an impressive 190 off 84 deliveries, whereas Ayush Loharuka scored a 56-ball 116, as captain Gani contributed another hundred to round out the assault. Suryavanshi's performance made him the youngest centurion in List A cricket.

KALINGA LANCERS CAMP

Kalinga Lancers Begin Pre-Season Camp

BHUBANESWAR

With the Hockey India League (HIL) 2026 fast approaching, Kalinga Lancers have officially commenced their pre-season training camp, with Indian players reporting at the iconic Kalinga Stadium on Tuesday. The early start reflects the franchise's intent to build a strong foundation and ensure thorough preparation ahead of one of India's most competitive domestic hockey tournaments.

The opening day of the camp focused on planning and orientation, as players participated in a detailed strategy meeting led by the team's Technical & Strategy Coach, Pascal Kina. The session marked the beginning of the Lancers' structured build-up to the new season, with emphasis on understanding playing philosophies, roles, and collective objectives.

A strong core of Indian players has reported for the camp, led by captain Sanjay. The group includes experienced goalkeeper Krishan B Pathak, defenders Partap Lakra, Rohit Kullu, and Sunil P B. The midfield unit features Rabichandra Moirangthem, Rosan Kujur, Dilpreet Singh, and Amit Kumar Toppo, while the forward line includes Angab Bir Singh, Deepak Pradhan, Gursahibjit Singh, and Boby Singh Dhami.

Pascal Kina brings over 15 years of experience in international hockey, having worked extensively across Europe and with teams in New Zealand, Australia, Canada, China, and Korea. The upcoming Hockey India League will mark his first coaching assignment in India. Expressing his enthusiasm, Kina said he was delighted to finally experience Indian hockey firsthand and proud to represent Vedanta Kalinga Lancers.

Highlighting the importance of the initial phase, Kina emphasized fitness assessments, testing, and building relationships within the squad. With limited time before the league begins, he stressed the need for early cohesion and clarity in roles. He also expressed confidence in the squad's quality and preparation plan, revealing that a practice match is already scheduled for the 28th. With overseas players expected to join directly from national team camps, Kina believes the team will have sufficient match readiness and preparation time.

Head, Conway gain big in rankings after recent red-ball heroics

DUBAI

Performers in Test victories for Australia and New Zealand experienced significant gains following the most recent update in the ICC Men's Player Rankings. Players from both teams experienced a double celebration as Australia advanced to an unassailable 3-0 series lead against England in a home Ashes series, and the Black Caps secured a 2-0 series victory over the West Indies in Mount Maunganui. These performances have brought some Australian players close to the top positions in the Men's Test batting and bowling rankings.

In Adelaide, Australia, Travis Head led the charge to an 82-run victory, with his second-innings score of 170 off 219 balls helping secure the win. This performance also moved Head up four places to joint third (815) in the rankings, alongside teammate Steve Smith. Alex Carey's century in the first innings propelled him six spots up the rankings, advancing to ninth place with his highest rating of 737.

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